

SURVEY
OF THE
MEGALITHIC TOMBS
OF IRELAND

Ruaidhrí de Valéra
and
Seán Ó Nualláin

VOLUME II COUNTY MAYO

DUBLIN
PUBLISHED BY THE STATIONERY OFFICE
1964

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ALPHABETICAL INDEX TO DESCRIPTIONS, PLANS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF TOMBS

| Townland | Number | Description Page | Plan(s) Fig.(s) | Photo- graph(s) Plate(s) | Townland | Number | Description Page | Plan(s) Fig.(s) | Photo- graph(s) Plate(s) |
|----------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Aghaleague | (Ma. 26) | 23 | 9 | 10 | Cloondaff | (Ma. 101) | 91 | — | — |
| Aghoo | (Ma. 24) | 22 | 20 | 9 | Coolcraun | (Ma. 71) | 65 | 22 | 28 |
| Aillemore | (Ma. 89) | 80 | 62 | 35 and 36 | Coollagagh | (Ma. 76) | 69 | 18 | 30 |
| Ardagh | (Ma. 54) | 50 | 40 | 22 | Creevagh More | (Ma. 29) | 26 | 26 | 11 |
| | | | | | Creevagh More | (Ma. 30) | 27 | 17 | 11 |
| Ballina | (Ma. 49) | 42 | 38 | 18 | Creggaun | (Ma. 55) | 51 | 46 | 22 |
| Ballinillaun | (Ma. 80) | 72 | 60 | 32 | Creggaun | (Ma. 75) | 68 | 57 | 30 |
| Ballybeg | (Ma. 28) | 25 | 21 | 10 | Cuillaun | (Ma. 82) | 74 | 35 | 33 |
| Ballybeg | (Ma. 31) | 28 | 27 | 11 and 12 | Doogort West | (Ma. 64) | 60 | 53 | 26 |
| Ballybeg | (Ma. 56) | 52 | 47 | 23 | Doonanaroo | | | | |
| Ballyduffy | (Ma. 69) | 64 | 15 | 28 | Upper | (Ma. 41) | 36 | 33 | 16 |
| Ballyglass | (Ma. 13) | 13 | 13 | 5 | Doonanaroo | | | | |
| Ballyglass | (Ma. 14) | 14 | 16 | 6 | Upper | (Ma. 42) | 37 | 33 | 16 |
| Ballyholan | (Ma. 48) | 41 | 37 | 18 | Dooncarton or | | | | |
| Ballyknock | (Ma. 11) | 11 | 11 | 4 | Glengad | (Ma. 1) | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ballyknock | (Ma. 12) | 12 | 12 | 6 | Doonty | (Ma. 73) | 67 | 57 | 30 |
| Ballymac- | | | | | Drumgollagh | (Ma. 77) | 70 | 59 | 31 |
| redmond | (Ma. 59) | 54 | 49 | 24 | Drumrevagh | (Ma. 58) | 54 | 48 | 23 |
| Ballynastang- | | | | | Drumslead | (Ma. 65) | 61 | 7 | 26 |
| ford Lower | (Ma. 97) | 86 | 67 | 40 | | | | | |
| Bal of | | | | | Eskeragh | (Ma. 47) | 41 | 37 | 18 |
| Dookinelly | (Ma. 63) | 59 | 52 | 26 | | | | | |
| Bangor | (Ma. 44) | 39 | 35 | 17 | Faulagh | (Ma. 21) | 20 | 18 | 8 |
| Barnhill Upper | (Ma. 27) | 24 | 25 | 10 | Faulagh | (Ma. 22) | 20 | 18 | 8 |
| Behy | (Ma. 3) | 4 | 3 and | | Feamore | (Ma. 92) | 83 | — | 41 |
| | | | 4 | 2 | Formoyle | (Ma. 90) | 81 | 64 | 37 |
| Belderg More | (Ma. 6) | 7 | 7 | 3 | | | | | |
| Belderg More | (Ma. 7) | 8 | 8 | 3 | Glenulra | (Ma. 4) | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| Belladoon | (Ma. 40) | 36 | 32 | 16 | Glenulra | (Ma. 5) | 7 | 6 | 2 |
| Breastagh | (Ma. 33) | 30 | 29 | 13 | Glenulra | (Ma. 8) | 9 | 9 | 3 |
| | | | | | Glenulra | (Ma. 9) | 9 | 8 | 3 |
| Callow | (Ma. 79) | 72 | 44 | 32 | Gortbrack | | | | |
| Cappagh | (Ma. 86) | 77 | 61 | 34 | North | (Ma. 19) | 18 | 6 | 7 |
| Carbad More | (Ma. 36) | 32 | 30 | 14 | Greenwood | (Ma. 88) | 79 | 63 | 37 |
| Carrowcrom | (Ma. 60) | 55 | 31 | 24 | | | | | |
| Carrowgarve | | | | | Harefield | (Ma. 98) | 87 | 68 | 40 |
| South | (Ma. 53) | 49 | 45 | 19 | | | | | |
| Carrowkilleen | (Ma. 52) | 45 | 39 | 20, 21 and 22 | Keel East | (Ma. 61) | 56 | 51 | 25 |
| | | | | | Keel East | (Ma. 62) | 58 | 50 | 25 |
| Carrowleagh | (Ma. 50) | 43 | 44 | 19 | Killimore | (Ma. 95) | 85 | 66 | 39 |
| Carrowleagh | (Ma. 51) | 44 | 41, 42 and 43 | 19 | Knockadoon | (Ma. 94) | 84 | 63 | 39 |
| | | | | | Knocknageeha | (Ma. 96) | 86 | 64 | 38 |
| Carrownaglogh | (Ma. 100) | 89 | 69 | 40 | Knocknalower | (Ma. 20) | 19 | 6 | 8 |
| Cartronmac- | | | | | Knockshanbally | (Ma. 83) | 75 | 45 | 33 |
| manus | (Ma. 74) | 67 | 38 | 29 | | | | | |
| Cashel | (Ma. 99) | 88 | 68 | 40 | Lecarrowtemple | (Ma. 16) | 16 | 17 | 7 |
| Castlehill | (Ma. 67) | 62 | 54 | 27 | Lecarrowtemple | (Ma. 17) | 17 | 15 | 7 |
| Castlehill | (Ma. 68) | 63 | 55 | 27 | Lettera | (Ma. 66) | 62 | 54 | 27 |
| Claggan | (Ma. 78) | 71 | 54 | 30 | Lisduff | (Ma. 93) | 83 | 65 | 37 |
| Cloonboy | (Ma. 34) | 31 | 22 | 13 | Lissaniska West | (Ma. 70) | 64 | 56 | 28 |

| Townland | Number | Description Page | Plan(s) Fig.(s) | Photo- graph(s) Plate(s) | Townland | Number | Description Page | Plan(s) Fig.(s) | Photo- graph(s) Plate(s) |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mountain- common | (Ma. 85) | 76 | 56 | 35 | Rooghan | (Ma. 32) | 29 | 28 | 12 |
| Muingerroon | | | | | Rosbeg | (Ma. 84) | 75 | 58 | 33 |
| South | (Ma. 23) | 21 | 19 | 8 | Rosdoagh | (Ma. 2) | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Muingerroon | | | | | Shanaghy | (Ma. 18) | 18 | 8 | 7 |
| South | (Ma. 38) | 34 | 19 | 15 | Shanvodinnaun | (Ma. 46) | 40 | 34 | 17 |
| Mullaghawny | (Ma. 57) | 52 | 22 | 23 | Shinganagh | (Ma. 87) | 78 | 21 | 35 |
| | | | | | Srahwee | (Ma. 91) | 82 | 55 | 38 |
| Pollnagawna | (Ma. 81) | 73 | 44 | 32 | Sralagagh | (Ma. 10) | 10 | 10 | 4 |
| Prebaun | (Ma. 72) | 66 | 54 | 29 | Tawnywaddy- duff | (Ma. 39) | 35 | 7 | 16 |
| | | | | | Tawnywaddy- duff | (Ma. 43) | 37 | 34 | 17 |
| Rathfranpark | (Ma. 35) | 32 | 23 | 13 and 14 | Townplots West | (Ma. 37) | 34 | 31 | 15 |
| Rathoonagh | (Ma. 15) | 15 | 14 | 6 | Tristia | (Ma. 45) | 39 | 36 | 17 |
| Rathoonagh | (Ma. 25) | 22 | 24 | 9 | | | | | |

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|-----------------------|--------------------|------|---------------|--------------------|------|
| Annagh Beg | 5 | 94 | Glencastle | 1 | 93 |
| Ballina | 3 | 93 | Keel East | 12 | 96 |
| Belladooan | 9 | 95 | Kildun | 14 | 97 |
| Belleek | 11 | 95 | Killadangan | 17 | 98 |
| Bunnadober | 20 | 99 | Knockfarnaght | 15 | 98 |
| | | | Knocknanny | 2 | 93 |
| Cloyrawer | 10 | 95 | Rathfran | 7 | 94 |
| Cogaula | 18 | 99 | Rathfran | 8 | 95 |
| Cuillaun | 16 | 98 | Rathfranpark | 6 | 94 |
| | | | Tallagh | 13 | 97 |
| Dooncarton or Glengad | 4 | 94 | Turlough | 19 | 99 |

NUMERICAL LIST OF TOMBS

| Number | Townland | Class | Number | Townland | Class |
|----------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------|
| (Ma. 1) | Dooncarton or Glengad | Court Cairn | (Ma. 52) | Carrowkilleen | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 2) | Rosdoagh | Court Cairn | (Ma. 53) | Carrowgarve South | Wedge |
| (Ma. 3) | Behy | Court Cairn | (Ma. 54) | Ardagh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 4) | Glenulra | Unclassified | (Ma. 55) | Creggaun | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 5) | Glenulra | Unclassified | (Ma. 56) | Ballybeg | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 6) | Belderg More | Unclassified | (Ma. 57) | Mullaghawny | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 7) | Belderg More | Court Cairn | (Ma. 58) | Drumrevagh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 8) | Glenulra | Court Cairn | (Ma. 59) | Ballymacredmond | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 9) | Glenulra | Court Cairn | (Ma. 60) | Carrowcrom | Wedge |
| (Ma. 10) | Sralagagh | Court Cairn | (Ma. 61) | Keel East | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 11) | Ballyknock | Portal Dolmen | (Ma. 62) | Keel East | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 12) | Ballyknock | Portal Dolmen | (Ma. 63) | Bal of Dookinelly | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 13) | Ballyglass | Court Cairn | (Ma. 64) | Doogort West | Portal Dolmen |
| (Ma. 14) | Ballyglass | Court Cairn | (Ma. 65) | Drumsleed | Unclassified |
| (Ma. 15) | Rathoonagh | Court Cairn | (Ma. 66) | Lettera | Wedge |
| (Ma. 16) | Lecarrowtemple | Court Cairn | (Ma. 67) | Castlehill | Wedge |
| (Ma. 17) | Lecarrowtemple | Court Cairn | (Ma. 68) | Castlehill | Wedge |
| (Ma. 18) | Shanaghy | Court Cairn | (Ma. 69) | Ballyduffy | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 19) | Gortbrack North | Portal Dolmen | (Ma. 70) | Lissaniska West | Unclassified |
| (Ma. 20) | Knocknalower | Portal Dolmen | (Ma. 71) | Coolcraun | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 21) | Faulagh | Unclassified | (Ma. 72) | Prebaun | Unclassified |
| (Ma. 22) | Faulagh | Unclassified | (Ma. 73) | Doonty | Wedge |
| (Ma. 23) | Muingerroon South | Court Cairn | (Ma. 74) | Cartronmacmanus | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 24) | Aghoo | Court Cairn | (Ma. 75) | Creggaun | Unclassified |
| (Ma. 25) | Rathoonagh | Court Cairn | (Ma. 76) | Coollagagh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 26) | Aghaleague | Court Cairn | (Ma. 77) | Drumgollagh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 27) | Barnhill Upper | Court Cairn | (Ma. 78) | Claggan | Portal Dolmen |
| (Ma. 28) | Ballybeg | Court Cairn | (Ma. 79) | Callow | Wedge |
| (Ma. 29) | Creevagh More | Court Cairn | (Ma. 80) | Ballinillaun | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 30) | Creevagh More | Court Cairn | (Ma. 81) | Pollnagawna | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 31) | Ballybeg | Court Cairn | (Ma. 82) | Cuillaun | Wedge |
| (Ma. 32) | Rooghan | Court Cairn | (Ma. 83) | Knockshanbally | Wedge |
| (Ma. 33) | Breastagh | Wedge | (Ma. 84) | Rosbeg | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 34) | Cloonboy | Court Cairn | (Ma. 85) | Mountaincommon | Unclassified |
| (Ma. 35) | Rathfranpark | Wedge | (Ma. 86) | Cappagh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 36) | Carbad More | Court Cairn | (Ma. 87) | Shinganagh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 37) | Townplots West | Wedge | (Ma. 88) | Greenwood | Wedge |
| (Ma. 38) | Muingerroon South | Court Cairn | (Ma. 89) | Aillemore | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 39) | Tawnywaddyduff | Court Cairn | (Ma. 90) | Formoyle | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 40) | Belladooan | Unclassified | (Ma. 91) | Srahwee | Wedge |
| (Ma. 41) | Doonanarroo Upper | Unclassified | (Ma. 92) | Feamore | Wedge |
| (Ma. 42) | Doonanarroo Upper | Unclassified | (Ma. 93) | Lisduff | Wedge |
| (Ma. 43) | Tawnywaddyduff | Court Cairn | (Ma. 94) | Knockadoon | Wedge |
| (Ma. 44) | Bangor | Unclassified | (Ma. 95) | Killimore | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 45) | Tristia | Court Cairn | (Ma. 96) | Knocknageeha | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 46) | Shanvodinnaun | Court Cairn | (Ma. 97) | Ballynastangford Lower | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 47) | Eskeragh | Court Cairn | (Ma. 98) | Harefield | Wedge |
| (Ma. 48) | Ballyholan | Court Cairn | (Ma. 99) | Cashel | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 49) | Ballina | Unclassified | (Ma. 100) | Carrownaglogh | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 50) | Carrowleagh | Wedge | (Ma. 101) | Cloondaff | Court Cairn |
| (Ma. 51) | Carrowleagh | Court Cairn | | | |

INTRODUCTION

The present volume deals with the megalithic tombs of County Mayo. It is the second of the series designed, as outlined in Volume I, to provide a corpus of descriptions, plans and photographs of the megalithic chambered tombs of Ireland. In the introduction to that volume, to which the reader is referred, the general scope and design of the survey is explained and the classification of Irish megalithic tombs summarized.¹

PREVIOUS ACCOUNTS OF CO. MAYO TOMBS

Though from the opening of the nineteenth century onwards many writers refer to megalithic tombs in Mayo, accounts of the sites, with the exception of those on the island of Achill, are extraordinarily meagre. In 1802 McParlan,² under the heading "Druidical Altars" states: "I met but two; one within a mile south-west of Ballinrobe, and another within about half a mile west of Ballina." The second site is the well-known example, Ballina (Ma. 49) frequently referred to by subsequent writers. The other remains unidentified though it is probably one of the large group of monuments in the Cong district (see p. xiii). In 1827 Miss L. C. Beaufort, in a prize essay for the Royal Irish Academy, mentions among many megalithic tombs throughout Ireland the site at Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) which she called "Baal-tien, the House of Baal."³ She gives a short description of the monument and publishes a sketch showing the western end of the site much as it is at present. In 1836, Knight, the engineer who built the road from Crossmolina via Bangor Erris to Belmullet, remarks that: "Some Druidical altars or cromleachs, have had existence in Erris. I destroyed one in Glencastle, by making the public road through it."⁴ (See App. No. 1 p. 93).

On the maps of the original edition of the Ordnance Survey (1837-38) thirty-three sites are marked as antiquities under the names, "Cromlech," "Giant's Grave," "Labbadermot," "Dermot and Grania's Bed," which usually denote megalithic graves. Eighteen of these are genuine megalithic tombs. For the remaining fifteen which will be found in the Appendix (Nos. 4-20) the existing evidence either permits their rejection as genuine sites or is insufficient to warrant acceptance. Seven further sites named "Pagan Cemetery," "Druid's Circle," "Carraunagunoge," "McMahon's Monument," "Tobernahaltora," "Burying Ground" and "Cloghabracka" are, in fact, megalithic tombs. The *Ordnance Survey Letters* (1838) mention twelve megalithic tombs that can be precisely identified and speak in general terms of several others. Three of the sites mentioned are not marked on the maps. In all, then, the original Ordnance Survey records in some form about twenty-eight true sites though most could not, on the evidence available, be recognized as such without verification. One plan only—Coollaghagh (Ma. 76)—is provided and, save for one not very instructive sketch of Mullaghawny (Ma. 57) included in the unpublished *Memoranda* of the original Ordnance Survey, no illustration is given. Only in a few cases is any description attempted and those which are supplied are general and vague.

1. *Survey of the Megalithic Tombs of Ireland, Vol. I, Co. Clare* (Stationery Office, Dublin, 1961), see pp. xi-xiv.

2. *Statistical Survey of the county of Mayo* (Dublin), 153.

3. *T.R.I.A.*, XV (1828), 108, 121.

4. *Erris in the "Irish Highlands" and the "Atlantic Railway"* (Dublin, 1836), 110.



Bunatrahir Bay. Looking S.W. towards the beach from the mouth of the bay

Cæsar Otway in his *Tour in Connaught*¹ briefly mentions the Achill tombs. In his later work, *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawly*,² he notes the large group around Rathfran but adds little to the account given in the *Ordnance Survey Letters*. He supplies a sketch plan of Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and notes for the first time the existence of the second tomb in that townland (Ma. 14). He describes the tombs at Gortbrack North (Ma. 19) and Dooncarton (Ma. 1), which are marked on the original edition of the Ordnance Survey, publishing a sketch of the former and quoting a description by Henri which is useful in showing the state of the monument before its collapse.

Kinahan, in a paper read to the Academy in 1871,³ describes Aillemore (Ma. 89) which appears as "Cromlech" on the original Ordnance Survey. He publishes a schematic plan and section by McHenry. Though Kinahan tended to treat the site as a hut his account shows that the monument was substantially in the same condition as it is to-day. In the following year Fergusson⁴ published a small plan with measurements of Ballina (Ma. 49). Ten years later Margaret Stokes in her "Carte des principaux dolmens d'Irlande"⁵ lists some fifteen sites. Of these about five, all of which had been previously recorded, can be accepted as genuine megalithic tombs. Wood-Martin published a drawing of Ballina (Ma. 49)⁶ and devotes a whole article to the tombs on Achill.⁷ Plans of the four known genuine megalithic tombs are given with drawings of two. However, the account of the location of these is made difficult by errors in direction. Over and above these sites some seven other monuments on the island are described, usually with plans and in some cases drawings, but it is unlikely that any are real megalithic tombs. The interpretation of the account presents several difficulties and has led to considerable confusion in subsequent work.

Borlase⁸ uses the Ordnance Survey maps and *Letters*, together with the accounts published up to his time, to compile a long list of sites. No new information is added. He gives a numbered list of forty-seven sites but by the use of Wood-Martin's account of Achill and also the rather vague descriptions of the Rathfran area by O'Donovan in the *Ordnance Survey Letters* and by Otway, indicates the presence of several others. In misplacing the site at Creevagh More (Ma. 29) he accidentally includes another genuine site called "Cloghabracka" in Ballybeg townland (Ma. 31) and in seeking to locate the site at Aillemore (Ma. 89) described by Kinahan, notes the name "Tobernahaltora" which, in fact, refers to another tomb in Shrawee (Ma. 91), (see below). In all then a list of well over fifty sites is indicated by Borlase's account. Even if the two sites accidentally adverted to are taken into account twenty-one only of his sites can be accepted as genuine megalithic tombs. Borlase's account therefore, despite its usefulness in assembling the references, is gravely misleading in that it includes such a high proportion of unacceptable sites.

In the years immediately following the publication of Borlase's work a few sites are noted in the literature. Cochrane⁹ published a list of antiquities in the Ballyhaunis district supplied to him by Crean in which the hitherto unrecorded tomb at Greenwood (Ma. 88) is mentioned. The summer meeting of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland was held in Ballina in 1898 but the account of the megalithic monuments visited¹⁰ in the district adds nothing to what had been previously recorded. In 1899 Knox¹¹ published a description of Shrawee (Ma. 91). This site, though the name was noted by Borlase, had not previously been verified as a megalithic tomb.

1. (Dublin, 1839), 370-371.

2. (Dublin, 1841), 205, 269 ff., 324-327, 336.

3. *P.R.I.A.*, XV (1879), 69.

4. *Rude Stone Monuments in All Countries* (London, 1872), 233.

5. *Revue Archéologique*, (1882), 1-22.

6. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887), 296-298, reprinted *The Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland* (Dublin, 1888), 234-236.

7. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887), 367-381, reprinted *The Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland* (Dublin, 1888), 238-252.

8. *The Dolmens of Ireland* (London, 1897), 110-125.

9. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 405.

10. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 283-286.

11. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXIX (1899), 63.

Westropp in 1904 published the first of his three accounts¹ of the Achill tombs. These accounts are very largely based on Wood-Martin and the difficulty is increased in some of them by reduplication of one of the sites. In 1912 the same author, in his work on the Promontory Forts and Early Remains in Co. Mayo,² briefly notes the site at Dooncarton (Ma. 1) recorded on the first Ordnance Survey Maps and described by Otway. Westropp also notes the interesting site at Ballyglass (Ma. 13) but was unable to learn if it still existed.³

The Photographic Collection of the Society of Antiquaries of Ireland contains a selection of photographs of megalithic tombs in Co. Mayo taken around this time but the captions in some cases are insufficient to identify the sites illustrated and many of the prints are now too faded to be of much assistance. Lists of the collection published in the *Journal of the Society*⁴ mention several sites already published and, in addition, five sites, Lisduff (Ma. 93), Knockadoon (Ma. 94), Feamore (Ma. 92), Cappagh (Ma. 86) and Drumsleed (Ma. 65), not previously recorded in the literature, which proved on recent examination to be genuine megalithic tombs. Save that Feamore (Ma. 92) had appeared on the early editions of the Ordnance Survey maps as "McMahon's Monument" none had been marked on the maps though Feamore (Ma. 92), Lisduff (Ma. 93) and Knockadoon (Ma. 94) appear on the latest edition (1913-1930) of the Ordnance Survey under the name "Dolmen." Though not all of the other sites mentioned in the lists and on the captions of the photographs themselves, could be identified, several were located and proved not to be genuine megalithic sites, e.g., Tallagh (App. No. 13), and the so-called "dolmen of Drumsleed" near the genuine site in the same townland (see under description of Drumsleed (Ma. 65) below).

The Ordnance Survey Revision of 1893 adds a few extra sites and further examples are marked on the Revisions of 1913-1930. No further discoveries seem to have been recorded on the maps or in the literature until 1950.

Though little attempt at the study of the classification and typology of the Mayo tombs had been made before this date a few writers had commented on a small number of sites. Westropp⁵ in a short note suggested a possible connection between the semi-circular facade at Clontygora (Large), Co. Armagh, and the "circular" courts of Achill and Ballyglass. Morris⁶ in 1932, in clearly isolating the court cairn class which he styles "Gapped-partition Graves," recognized Ballyglass (Ma. 13), which he re-planned, Carbad More (Ma. 36) and a third unidentified Mayo site as belonging to this class. Mahr⁷ follows Morris and includes Ballyglass (Ma. 13) on his map. The second Mayo site marked by him—"Castlerock or Castlecarrow"—is a Sligo tomb misplaced. Mahr also suggests that the Achill sites are related to the court cairns. Piggott and Powell carried out a rapid survey of Achill in 1946 and published new sketch plans of some of the monuments.⁸ Though the identification of some of the sites with those noted by Wood-Martin is incorrect they clearly recognized the affinity of two of the tombs with the court cairn class and point to the need for further work in western Ireland.

Before 1950 then, the position may be summarized as follows. Twenty-eight genuine sites were marked on the maps as megalithic tombs under the names "Giant's Grave," "Cromlech," "Druid's Altar," "Dermot and Grannia's Bed," "Darby's Bed," and "Dolmen." Of these, eleven are not mentioned in the published literature or *Ordnance Survey Letters*. A further eleven sites are marked—seven as antiquities under the names "Stone Circle," "Burial Ground" (2), "Pagan Cemetery," "Leach-an-Faigha," "Carraunagunoge" and "Tobernahaltora" and four others not indicated

1. *R.S.A.I., Guide to Sea Excursion 1904*, 35-37, republished as *Antiquarian Handbook Series No. VI* (1905), 34-36.
P.R.I.A., XXXI Clare Island Survey, Part 2 (1911), 2-3.
J.R.S.A.I., XLIV (1914), 300-301.
2. *J.R.S.A.I., XLII* (1912), 132.
3. *ibid.*, 116.
4. *J.R.S.A.I., XXIX* (1899), 62-63; *XXXVII* (1907), 118; *XXXVIII* (1908), 98; *XLIV* (1914), 95; *XLVIII* (1918), 100.
5. *J.R.S.A.I., XXXIV* (1904), 73.
6. *P.B.N.H.P.S.* (1931-32), 22-29.
7. *P.P.S.*, III (1937), 339, 348, 426.
8. *J.R.S.A.I., LXXVII* (1947), 136-146.

as antiquities but named "Cloghbrack" and "Cloghabracka," and "Children's Burial Ground" (2). For this eleven the literature gives information on three only, though attention is drawn to the names of two others. The maps mark seventeen sites¹ under names "Cromlech," "Giant's Grave" "Dermot and Grania's Bed" and "Labbadermot" which cannot be accepted as true megalithic tombs. The published literature refers to four sites not marked on the maps—Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Cloonboy (Ma. 34) first noted by O'Connor, Ballyglass (Ma. 14) by Otway and Cappagh mentioned in the List of Photographs in the Society of Antiquaries Collection. Unpublished sources yield three other sites—two at Castlehill noted with sketch plans by O'Kelly² and one at Ballyholan (Ma. 48) mentioned by Fagan in the Ordnance Survey *Hill Drawing Name Books*.³ Thus, though about forty-six of the genuine sites are in some manner mentioned, many were marked by misleading names and scarcely half of this number could in any wise be accepted as proven megalithic tombs without verification.

Published plans were available for seven sites and unpublished plans for three others. All are sketch plans. Sketches, often inaccurate, are given for six sites including four of those for which plans are available. Descriptions were never adequate, and for only about a dozen sites was any useful detail forthcoming.

In 1949 an examination of the Achill tombs was undertaken by the present writers,⁴ as a preliminary trial for the survey of the megalithic tombs of Ireland. The results of this examination indicated that further information on the north Connaught region was imperative if real progress were to be made towards the solution of major problems concerning the typology and distribution of Irish megalithic tombs, particularly those of the court cairn class. It was decided therefore that a reconnaissance in north Mayo should be undertaken. The district around Killala Bay seemed on geographical grounds the most likely to yield results and exploratory work was begun there in 1950.⁵ In 1951 and 1952 in the course of a study of the court cairns of Ireland involving a widespread preliminary survey of Irish tombs, especially in the northern half of the country, many sites in Mayo were examined. The results of this work together with further field-work carried out up to the end of 1956 were incorporated in an article by one of us on the Court Cairns of Ireland.⁶ It was possible to include as an addendum⁷ to this paper a brief account of material which had come to light prior to March, 1959. Meanwhile short notes on two Mayo sites were published by other writers.⁸ The field-work for the full treatment of the megalithic tombs of Co. Mayo was carried out largely in the years 1959 and 1960, together with some further survey in 1961, 1962 and 1963 made necessary by the discovery of additional sites. As all sites, even the comparatively small number which had been fully surveyed by us prior to 1959, were revisited the accounts here published refer to the condition of the tombs in these last four years. Since 1954 the reconnaissance of the county has been greatly assisted by Major R. B. Aldridge of Mount Falcon, Co. Mayo, and we owe to him a very special debt of gratitude for bringing some thirty of the fifty-five sites discovered since 1950 to our notice. His generosity in keeping us constantly informed of these discoveries, which were the result of long and painstaking field-search on his part, has made our lists much more complete than we could otherwise have achieved.

The publications since 1950 had made available full scale plans and descriptions of twelve sites. Summary accounts of twenty-seven other sites with thirteen small scale plans had also been included and several other Mayo tombs had been mentioned in passing. In all then, of the 101 sites published in the present volume, little more than one-third could be said to have been even summarily described in recent or earlier

1. Fourteen of these appear on the original edition.

2. O.P.W. files.

3. Ordnance Survey archives.

4. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 199-227.

5. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197; *J.G.A.H.S.*, XXV (1952), 47-51.

6. de Valera, *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 9-136.

7. *ibid.*, 137-140.

8. Rynne: *J.G.A.H.S.*, XXVI (1954-56), 26-27.

Aldridge: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXVI (1956), 104-106.

literature¹ and those for which full surveys and descriptions had appeared amounted to less than one-eighth of the total. Approximately one-third of the tombs in this volume have hitherto been completely unrecorded on the maps or in the literature.

SCOPE AND PLAN OF PRESENT VOLUME

In the present volume detailed descriptions are given for all the extant megalithic tombs known to us in Co. Mayo with the exception of Cloondaff (Ma. 101), discovered after the volume was passed for press and for which a summary account only is given. New plans (with sections where appropriate), reproduced at the uniform scale of 1/100, adopted as the standard scale for the Survey, together with photographs, are given for all sites except Cloondaff (Ma. 101). Additional plans and sections at a scale of 1/50 are given for two tombs, Behy (Ma. 3) and Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), in order to illustrate more fully details of the excellent corbelling and roofing present at these sites. The ranging rods used as scales in the photographs are normally marked in 20 cm. intervals. However, in the case of a small number of sites the rods are marked in feet and this is indicated on the caption referring to the photograph.

In the first part of the Appendix three destroyed sites which probably were megalithic tombs are listed. However, as some doubt exists as to their true nature these are not marked on our maps.² Next follows a schedule of sites which appear on the Ordnance Survey maps under names such as Cromlech, etc., but which are not accepted as megalithic tombs. All these were visited by us and the reasons for their rejection are noted in each case. In the Cong area of Co. Mayo two megalithic tombs are recorded, Killimore (Ma. 95) and Knocknageeha (Ma. 96). The other monuments in this district, marked as Cairns, Stone Circles, etc.,³ were visited. These are not included in the Megalithic Survey because in no case can they be shown to be true megalithic chambered tombs. The unopened cairns of course could contain megalithic chambers but one example⁴ which was used as a quarry for stone has a large cist centrally placed which could not be considered a megalithic tomb. Local information on the findings during the removal of this cairn, which was apparently of considerable height (at least over 10 feet), indicated that no other structure had been encountered. A considerable portion of the kerb of this monument still remains and is obviously similar in its closely-set, tall, pillar-like stones to the "Stone Circles" in the area. The whole complex of monuments in the Cong district will require a special study. Pending this their relationship with megalithic chambered tombs must remain an open question.

The omission from the Appendix of sites mentioned in the literature may be taken as implying their rejection as proven megalithic tombs.⁵ Most of these sites, including all noticed prior to 1900, are listed by Borlase. Almost all were located and examined in the field. In some cases no extant remains existed and in others the objects referred to were obviously not megalithic tombs. In very few cases does it seem at all likely that real megalithic tombs existed.⁶

1. The few sites planned in the earlier literature, save Ballina (Ma. 49) are replanned in publications between 1950 and 1960 and scarcely any descriptive material is to be found in the earlier literature that is not superseded in these later publications.

2. The destroyed site at Feamore (Ma. 92), removed since 1952, was a wedge-shaped gallery grave (see description, p. 83) and appears under the appropriate symbol for that class on the maps.

3. The monument marked "Memorial Stones" on 6" Sheet 120, in Nymphsfield Townland consists of three large standing stones and a fourth smaller stone, perhaps collapsed. One of the standing stones, incorporated in a fence, is .90 m. by .80 m. and 1.60 m. high. The second stone stands 3.00 m. NE. of the last and is 1.20 m. by .70 m. and 1.30 m. high. The third standing stone is 4.20 m. south of the last and 2.40 m. from the first stone. It is 1.20 m. by 1.00 m. and 1.70 m. high. The fourth stone, which lies to the east of the standing stones, is .70 m. by .25 m. and .20 m. high. The nature of the monument is doubtful but it cannot, on present evidence, be accepted as a megalithic tomb.

4. In the townland of Cahernagollum O.S. 6" Sheet 118. 4.5 cm. from left; 15.2 cm. from bottom (approx.). This is referred to in *Lovely is the Lee* by Robert Gibbings (London, 1945), 53-54.

5. The problems raised by the work of Wood-Martin and subsequent workers on the Achill monuments are dealt with in the Appendix (see App. No. 12.)

6. Among the few cases which might perhaps leave a little doubt is the site said to have been in Westport Demesne (Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 123, Murrisk No. 1). Extensive enquiry failed to locate the site. It may well have been a cist with a surrounding kerb.

As is to be expected in any intensive survey, especially in regions where rock-strewn hillsides with peat cover are frequent, several sites were discovered which presented arrangements of slabs suggesting possible interpretation as megalithic tombs. While admitting that theoretically almost any sizable stones could possibly be the remnants of a tomb, we had little difficulty in rejecting the majority of such sites and indeed in most cases an explanation of them as consisting largely if not entirely of fortuitous natural arrangements seemed easy. In a few instances,¹ however, the resemblance to a ruined chamber was sufficient at least superficially to leave a little doubt but it was considered best to exclude these from our list lest inclusion even as doubtful sites would tend to establish them as probable examples. Our field notes, housed at the Ordnance Survey Office, include a descriptive record of these sites.

One further site should be mentioned here. In Gorteen² Townland near Ballina is a miniature chamber or large cist 1.30 m. long, 1.40 m. to .95 m. broad and about .75 m. high. While the stones forming it are large it seems best considered in the context of massive cists rather than with the megalithic tombs proper and it is therefore excluded from the present volume. It is possible, of course, that such cists do partake in part of the megalithic tradition.

In view of the unusually rapid rate of discovery of megalithic tombs in Co. Mayo the question of the completeness of the present survey is not altogether easy to assess. Much of the county is difficult to search and especially in the vast trackless regions of bogland, tombs could remain undiscovered and might even be completely concealed in the peat. It is very probable that more sites will be found. However, despite the difficult terrain, the present survey, assisted as it was by the widespread enquiries and searches of Major Aldridge, can at least be hoped to cover the great majority of megalithic tombs extant in the county and the very number of sites now known make it very probable that the pattern here recorded shows the real position well. Since this pattern first emerged in the 1950's new discoveries, while extending the distributions somewhat, have generally tended to intensify the picture rather than to diversify it.

There is in Mayo some evidence for destruction. Early demolition is probable at Glencastle (App. No. 1) and Ballina (App. No. 3) and as recently as 1954 the tomb at Feamore (Ma. 92) was destroyed. However, on the whole the sites are preserved rather unusually well and there is no evidence for wholesale clearance. While allowing then that here and there destruction may leave some gaps in the record, it is very probable that the extant sites show the original state of affairs at least reasonably reliably. It seems therefore that valid conclusions can be drawn from the incidence of the tombs as now known.

In Part I, which contains the descriptions, the tombs for the whole county are numbered consecutively according to the 6 inch sheet, 1/2500 plan and trace.³ The subdivision of the county by baronies adopted in Volume I for Co. Clare was found unsuitable for other counties and is discontinued. 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: 4: 13: 6. 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, published between 1913 and 1930. 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., F 810 382. This grid appears on the current half-inch and

1. e.g., Gortbrack North O.S. 6" Sheet 11, 4.1 cm. from left, 47.4 cm. from bottom.
Creevagh O.S. 6" Sheet 7, 87.5 cm. from left, 28.3 cm. from bottom.
Muingerroon South O.S. 6" Sheet 11, 33.9 cm. from left, 10.1 cm. from bottom.
Breastagh O.S. 6" Sheet 15, 10.8 cm. from left, 39.0 cm. from bottom.

2. O.S. 6" Sheet 30, 45.6 cm. from left, 8.9 cm. from bottom.

3. The only exceptions are Ballynastangford Lower (Ma. 97), Harefield (Ma. 98), Cashel (Ma. 99), Carrownaglogh (Ma. 100) and Cloondaff (Ma. 101) which were discovered after the arrangement of the present Volume had been completed. The first two of these sites were brought to our notice by Dr. George Maguire of Claremorris and the last by Father Martin Gillespie.

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. Tombs of the wedge-shaped gallery class, except where otherwise stated, are described as if orientated due west and east. This convention, already used in Volume I, facilitates comparison of features among tombs of this class which are consistently aligned with the front 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 some cases the same matter is repeated more than once and many references contain but little detail. Where plans and illustrations occur in these accounts this is indicated by the abbreviations Pl. Plan; Ph. Photograph; Drg. Drawing. These will normally indicate the principal accounts. In the few instances where significant detail not now visible is recorded in previous accounts this is noted in our descriptions and 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 the morphological and distributional factors are discussed. Throughout the Volume tombs in Mayo are referred to by the townland names, followed in brackets by the county abbreviation and number,¹ e.g., Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52). This system already applied in Volume I, will be maintained in future volumes of 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 Co. Mayo would be "Name of Townland" (Ma. 102).

The plans at a standard uniform scale of 1/100 are grouped at the end of the text and are arranged as far as possible in the order of the numeration. These are followed by the photographs. The orientation diagrams and maps are found at the end of the Volume. A copy of Sheet 3 of the current 1/250,000 ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch (approx.) = 1 mile) Ordnance Survey Map covering the west of Ireland is contained in a wallet on the back cover. This map shows Co. Mayo and adjoining areas and includes the county of Clare already dealt with in Volume I of the Megalithic Survey.

CONVENTIONS USED IN PLANS

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 in thick line. Fences are indicated by heavy lines and are marked by the word FENCE or the letter F. The outline of cairn remains are shown in pecked line with hachuring in a few instances. In the sections all stones cut by the section-line are hatched.

1. 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 is superseded by the numeration used in the present series.

PART ONE:

DESCRIPTIONS
AND
APPENDIX

COUNTY MAYO

1. Dooncarton or Glengad. O.S. 4: 13: 6 (18.3 cm., 6.4 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. F 810 382. Fig. 1. Plate 1.

Court Cairn

The monument stands in front of a small farm-house on the narrow strip of cultivated land lying between Dooncarton Mountain and the sea. This land is used mainly for potatoes, corn and pasture. Northwards from the tomb the ground falls for some 400 yards to a rocky shoreline. To the north-east, beyond the sandy mouth of Sruwaddacon Bay, Benwee Head and Knockadaff form the skyline. South of the bohereen, which passes close to the monument, the ground rises rather sharply and about 300 yards distant gives way to rough mountain. Some 100 yards west of the site a stream runs down a deep gully to the sea.

The monument consists of a long cairn, orientated approximately E-W, and incorporating at its east end a fairly well preserved gallery together with some remains of a court. Two jamb and sill arrangements stand about 8.00 m. west of the gallery.

The cairn is much disturbed but seems to have been at least 24.00 m. long. Its width cannot be determined. A stone-faced bank and a roadway cutting across the cairn about 3.00 m. beyond the entrance to the gallery have destroyed, or perhaps concealed the east end of the cairn. A ledge or step, .50 m.-1.00 m. high, in which many stones are exposed, runs along the northern side of the cairn. This may not represent the original edge as some of the cairn material may have been removed to make way for the path which now runs between the cairn and the fence to the north. The western end of the cairn cannot be defined with certainty but a slight fall of the ground level suggests that it may have ended immediately west of the jamb and sill arrangements though some large blocks lie between this and the house. The southern edge of the cairn cannot be traced. Here the ground runs level to a ledge which rises .25 m. above the surface. This seems to be largely due to cultivation.

The court remains are scant. Single stones flank the entrance jambs of the gallery at either side. All four stones are .35 m. high. The gap between the jambs is .45 m. wide. A stone, .25 m. high (hatched on plan), standing north of the entrance may be a courtstone and another stone, 2.00 m. east of this could also be so interpreted.

The gallery is 5.00 m. long. The north side consists of three stones set in line. The more easterly of these is .60 m. high. The next stone is .90 m. high and the third stone, which has a sloping top surface, is .75 m. high at the east and .30 m. high at the west. The south side of the gallery is also of three stones but the more easterly is set skew to the line of the other two. It is greatly concealed in the cairn and is at least 1.30 m. long and is .40 m. high. The other two stones are .50 m. and .40 m. high respectively. Their top surfaces both slope down to the east. The west end of the gallery is closed by a fine backstone .60 m. high. Behind this is another stone of about the same height which appears to be a doubling of the backstone. Lying across the west end of the gallery is a large roofstone, .60 m. thick, which seems to be displaced. Two stones, each about .25 m. thick and 1.00 m. and 1.60 m. in maximum dimension respectively, lying immediately outside the gallery at the west and at the north, may be displaced corbels.

The gallery is divided into two chambers of unequal size by a transverse stone running from the south side of the gallery to within .40 m. of the north side. This stone

is about .30 m. lower than the gallery sides. Between it and the north side is a small stone which is set in the ground but it is not certainly in situ. The front chamber is 2.00 m. long and the second chamber 2.80 m. long. The gallery averages 1.30 m. in width.

The jamb and sill arrangements at the west end of the cairn may be the remains of subsidiary chambers but the original design here is not clear. The sill of the more southerly group is .30 m. high. The southern jamb here is .85 m. high and the northern is .45 m. high. West of the more southerly jamb is a stone about .30 m. high which appears to be set. The sill of the southern group is .30 m. high. The southern jamb is .50 m. high and the northern .60 m. high. Two set stones east of the more northerly jamb may be sidestones of a chamber. They are .50 m. and .65 m. high respectively. A stone, .60 m. high (hatched on plan), is set on the northern edge of the cairn. While this could represent another subsidiary chamber, the probable disturbance of the cairn, noted above, leaves considerable doubt.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 110, Erris No. 1.

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrawley* (Dublin, 1841), 336-337.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLII (1912), 130-132. *ibid.*, 55.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 137, (MA. 26).

2. **Rosdoagh.** O.S. 4: 14: 2 (34.5 cm., 7.8 cm.). "Stone Circle." O.D. 100. F 827 383. Fig. 2. Plate 1.

Court Cairn

The monument lies about 300 yards from the shore at the eastern side of Broadhaven near the entrance to Sruwaddacon Bay. To the north lies a wide stretch of sand-dunes and to the south-west Dooncarton Mountain dominates the site. The land on which the tomb stands is damp heathy pasture sloping towards the sea from a low ridge to the east of the site. Old tillage beds surround the tomb.

The monument is poorly preserved and difficult to interpret. A short gallery, orientated roughly SSE-NNW, opens to a court at the SSE. The court area is comparatively level. Around the court and gallery a low banking can be traced forming a rough oval 27.00 m. long and 20.00 m. in greatest width. While much of the outer edge of this banking is reasonably clear, the rough heather-covered ground and the general slope of the surrounding land permit only of an approximate delineation of the outline. At the north-western end of the site around the gallery very uneven ground leaves the true outline especially uncertain. The inner edge of the bank appears to run 2 m. to 3 m. outside the probable line of the court perimeter along the north-eastern side, extending from a row of five heavy blocks near the eastern corner of the site to a point just north of the rear end of the gallery. However, the downward slope continues to the ill-defined edge of the level area within the court (shown by dotted line on plan). The evidence of courtstones along this side is not sufficient adequately to define the perimeter. It remains uncertain therefore how far this edge can be taken as truly representing the line of this side of the court. It is probable that some of the lower portion of the slope may be due to slip from the bank. Along the opposite (south-western) side the inner edge of the banking seems to merge with the court perimeter as defined by the courtstones.

The gallery opens off the NNW end of the court. A heavy set stone, .60 m. high, may be the backstone or a segmenting stone (see below). It has a rough but flattish top. The north-eastern side of the gallery is represented by two stones. That beside the backstone is .80 m. high. Its top is bevelled outwards. The other sidestone stands about 1.00 m. to the south-east. Its straight top edge slopes sharply upwards towards the court. It stands .60 m. high above the ground level immediately around it but this is about .25 m. higher than the ground surrounding the next three stones to be described. Matching it on the opposite side of the gallery is the only surviving stone of the south-western side. It is .40 m. high. Inside this a flat-topped stone, .65 m. high, seems to be a jamb. Beside this again a pointed stone, .70 m. high, seems best interpreted as a blocking stone or septal. All the above described stones are erect.

The north-western part of the court perimeter is defined by three erect stones each .30 m. high. The first is a flat-topped stone standing at the gallery entrance and perhaps functioning as an entry jamb. A small fragment immediately behind it is probably a piece split from it. The second courtstone has also a horizontal top edge but the top of the third slopes sharply downwards away from the gallery entrance. At right-angles to this are two stones probably originally a single block. The smaller is .40 m. high and the larger .80 m. high. Overlapping the larger piece is a big block .50 m. in height. The function of these stones is not certain. They could perhaps indicate a lateral entry into the court or a subsidiary chamber opening off the court. Some 2.00 m. to the south three erect set stones indicate the continuation of the court perimeter. These measure .55 m., .20 m. and .50 m. in height respectively from north to south. Some 2.00 m. to the south-east of these is a further group of three set stones. Two of these are much concealed and protrude only .20 m. above the ground. The third which stands between them is an erect stone, .50 m. high, and may well be a courtstone or perhaps part of the court entrance. It is possible that the other two are to be similarly interpreted.

Fewer courtstones are present along the north-eastern side of the court. Two erect courtstones each .30 m. high are set about 1.50 m. from the gallery entrance. South-eastwards of these, some 3.00 m. distant, is a stone protruding .10 m. from the slope below the bank. Just over 2.00 m. south of this again a flat block, .12 m. high, lies on the edge of the level court area. It may be a collapsed stone but could possibly be set. On the whole though sharp irregularities are not infrequent in the perimeter of courts (cf. Ma. 16, Ma. 30, etc.), it seems unlikely that both of these two stones are courtstones though either might be. Taken as a whole the evidence suggests a full-court about 9.00 m. long and about 8.00 m. wide. The portion on either side of the gallery entrance indicates a characteristic flattening across the entry.

A row of five blocks forms a fairly straight line some 2.00 m. east of the court. Three of these (hatched on plan) rise .30 m. to .40 m. on the slope between the court and the banking surrounding the tomb. The other two stones are only .15 m. high. The size of the blocks in the row suggests that they may be an integral part of the tomb. It is, however, difficult to interpret them as revetment either frontal or along the sides. It is even more unlikely that they are courtstones.

The banking around the tomb seems, as far as can be observed under the heather and grass, to consist in considerable measure of stones. A number of firmly embedded stones protrude from it. Most of these appear as small points of stone .10 m. to .20 m. high. Two of them (hatched on plan) set about 1.50 m. to 2.00 m. outside the courtstones at the south-western side are rather larger being .35 m. (more easterly) and .50 m. (more westerly) high respectively. Two blocks near the extreme south-east of the site are heavy stones similar to the row of five described above. The more easterly of them is .20 m. thick and lies prostrate. The other is set, leaning heavily towards the east and is .30 m. high.

While the evidence for court and gallery seem sufficient to permit classification as a Court Cairn with reasonable certitude the relation of the banking to the tomb must be left undecided. The stones protruding from the banking seem in general to follow the curve of the oval. It is difficult therefore to consider these stones as kerbing of a cairn. They could, perhaps, have marked the edge of the banking. The difficult ground conditions make for obscurity but the general impression given by the site is that of an oval enclosure built around the tomb. It is quite possible that two distinct phases are represented; the first a court cairn, the second of unknown date, an enclosure incorporating the remains of the megalithic structure. It would seem likely that cairn material would have been utilized in the construction of such an enclosure. The gallery seems to have had a very short front element, 1.00 m. long and approximately 2.20 m. wide, best described as an ante-chamber. Behind this is a chamber of normal size, 2.25 m. long. If the stone at the end of the gallery is, in fact, the backstone, the tomb could be either a two-chambered site with an exceptionally short front chamber or a single-chambered tomb with ante-chamber. It is just possible, however, that the stone is a segmenting stone like that present at Dooncarton (Ma. 1) and that the gallery once extended beyond it.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLII (1912), 130-131.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179 (footnote 37).

3. Behy. O.S. 6: 7: 5 (59·8 cm., 32·1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. G 050 405. Figs. 3 and 4. Plate 2.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated near the eastern boundary of Behy townland about four miles north-west of the village of Ballycastle. It lies on the north-western slope of a mountain ridge which extends north-eastwards from Maumakeogh Mountain (1,247 ft.). North-westwards the land falls sharply to the high cliffs along the sea coast about half a mile away. The site commands a wide view along the west to Belderg and the Stags of Broadhaven and in the distance across Donegal Bay, Slieve League and the mountains of south-west Donegal are visible. The mountain side on which the tomb lies is covered in a blanket of peat at least 2·00 m. deep in places. The land in the whole region is bleak mountain bogland—uncultivated except for small pockets at the seaward ends of the river valleys.

The site is almost entirely covered in peat. It lies between two turf banks running roughly north and south and some 28 m. apart. About half-way between the banks the peat cover is broken and a chamber structure is exposed. This consists of the rear chamber of a segmented gallery aligned roughly east and west from which a pair of side chambers, arranged transeptally, open. The outline of a long mound is traceable extending from one bog cutting to the other. Along the northern side the edge appears as a low bank. From a point opposite the east end of the exposed chamber this edge converges towards the line of the main axis of the chamber indicating a straight-sided cairn narrowing towards the rear. The line of the banking eastwards of the chamber turns inwards suggesting that the cairn narrows towards the front. The southern side of the cairn is less clearly defined. A rather irregular edge, partially damaged towards the bog-cutting at the west where loose stones, probably more or less recently disturbed, are scattered on the surface, seems to converge to the rear in conformity with the northern side. Eastwards of the chamber the line is difficult to trace owing to the very hummocky peat surface. It would appear, however, that the cairn width at the front was less than that at the gallery. At the base of the bog-cuttings under about ·75 m. to 1·00 m. of peat, stones—probably cairn-stones—are exposed. However, the line of a rough fence of stones is traceable extending eastwards and westwards of the site for several hundred yards and without excavation it is not possible to decide with certainty whether the stones in the cutting belong to the cairn or to the fence which runs into it at either end.

Extending about 3 m. east of the exposed chamber the edges of a few slabs—probably gallery roofing—appear in the broken peat surface. Eastwards again of this a shallow oval depression about 7 m. long, east and west, and 6 m. wide, suggests that a court is present here.

The chamber structure consists of the end chamber of a segmented gallery with a pair of transeptal chambers opening north and south from it. The eastern end of the main chamber is marked by a pair of jambs with a high sill between them. The northern jamb is ·60 m. long, ·07 m. thick and 1·10 m. high. The top of the southern jamb is broken off and it is ·55 m. long, ·15 m. thick and ·50 m. high. The sill is ·75 m. wide, ·15 m. thick and ·55 m. high. Its eastern face is concealed in the filling of the eastern portion of the gallery.

Four great slabs form the side walls of the main chamber. These placed two to each side form the main framework of the design. The more easterly slab on the northern side measures 1·30 m. long, ·30 m. thick and 1·20 m. high and leans slightly inwards. The other on this side is erect and measures 1·50 m. long, ·30 m. thick and 1·25 m. high. On the southern side the more easterly sidestone is 1·60 m. long, ·35 m. thick and 1·20 m. high, while the other slab on this side is 1·35 m. long, ·30 m. thick and 1·40 m. high. Both of these slabs lean inwards. At the base of each of the four great side slabs, stones which appear to be large packing stones are set. The largest of these is ·60 m. long, ·25 m. thick and ·35 m. high. The backstone overlaps the sidestones and measures 1·75 m. long, ·35 m. thick and ·60 m. high. The top is broad and flat. Resting on the backstone is a great slab 1·85 m. long (N-S), 1·20 m. wide (E-W) and ·25 m. thick. It

is tilted upwards on the sidestones in corbel fashion. Above it lies a horizontal roofstone 2.30 m. long (N-S), .90 m. wide (E-W) and .20 m. thick. Local informants stated that another great roofstone had spanned the gallery west of this but that it had been removed some sixty years ago to be used in the construction of a culvert.

The transeptal chambers are of somewhat lighter construction than the main gallery. They are entered through gaps about .75 m. wide between the massive sidestones of the main gallery. In the northern transept a slab, 1.20 m. long, .07 m. thick and .25 m. high, seems to be the backstone. It is supported on the inside by packing stones. Behind it is a very high pitched corbel 1.15 m. long and .12 m. thick. It rises .40 m. above the backstone and its base is concealed in the cairn. Over this again is a roof slab sloping corbel-wise and measuring 1.30 m. long (N-S), .10 m. thick and at least 1.40 m. wide (E-W). The front part of the transept is roofed by a horizontal slab 1.35 m. (E-W), .70 m. (N-S) and .07 m. thick. The western side of this transept consists of a large slab which leans somewhat inwards measuring 1.55 m. long, .10 m. thick and .80 m. high. Its top edge slopes down steeply to the north. Over this sidestone is a high-pitched corbel 1.20 m. long, .08 m. thick and at least .40 m. high. The slab sloping corbel-wise forming the roof of the inner end of the chamber rests on this corbel. The eastern side of the transept is formed of a slab 1.60 m. long, .12 m. thick and .70 m. high. It matches the opposite sidestone well and its top edge slopes down northwards even to a greater degree. Tilted against the outside of this slab are two almost vertical corbel stones. The more northerly measures 1.10 m. long, .07 m. thick and is over .75 m. high. The more southerly overlaps behind this and is at least 1.10 m. long, .10 m. thick and over .80 m. high. The bases of these stones are concealed. The horizontal roof-slab covering the front part of the transeptal chamber is supported on the side corbels and on the sloping roofstone of the inner part of the chamber. There is at present a gap in the walling of the transept at the south-east corner. In front of this is a slab .40 m. long, .05 m. thick and .75 m. high. It leans in. If original it may be forced inwards slightly and may have served to complete the walling of the transept. A large packing stone comparable to those noted in the main gallery is set inside it.

The rear of the opposite (southern) transept is formed of a slab, 1.10 m. long, .07 m. thick and .80 m. high, inside of which two slabs each about .55 m. long, .10 m. thick and .35 m. high, are set. The taller stone leans somewhat inwards. Above it a slab sloping corbel-wise forms the roof of the inner portion of the chamber. It measures at least 1.70 m. (E-W), .85 m. (N-S) and .08 m. thick. The roof of the outer part of the transept is formed of a slab 1.50 m. long (E-W) and over 1.00 m. wide (N-S). It lies horizontally with its southern edge supported on the sloping roofstone of the inner end of the transept. The eastern side of the transept is formed of a slab 1.45 m. long, .10 m. thick and 1.10 m. high. It leans slightly inwards. The sloping roofstone of the inner end of the transept rests on the sidestone but the horizontal roofstone of the outer part rests on small cairn stones outside the sidestone. The western sidestone of the southern transept is 1.60 m. long, .15 m. thick and .60 m. high. It leans slightly inwards. A steeply pitched corbel, 1.55 m. long, .10 m. thick and at least .60 m. high, rests upon it. Its base is hidden. Rising behind this corbel is another also very steeply pitched. It is split but when complete would measure 1.25 m. long, .07 m. thick and over .50 m. high.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 180.

de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.G.A.H.S.*, XXV (1952), 47-51.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 138, A.

ADDITIONAL NOTE

Since the material for the present volume was passed for press a season's excavation was carried out in June and July, 1963 on the tomb at Behy. The whole area between the bog-cutting east of the tomb and a line about 2.50 m. east of the jambs and sill exposed within the gallery was uncovered. This revealed an oval, dry-stone walled full-court, 7.50 m. long and 5 m. wide, opening through a gap 2.00 m. wide to a slightly

incurved dry-walled frontal facade. The court walling was preserved to a height of 1.50 m. at the inner end and, though considerable collapse of the top of the walling had taken place into the court, the perimeter was everywhere clearly defined, the average surviving height being about .75 m. The frontal facade was about .75 m. high at the north but was removed save for the basal layer at the south. The side kerbs were also dry-walled. That at the north was preserved in several tiers along the whole excavated portion. That on the south was damaged towards the south-east corner but was well preserved further westwards. On both sides the kerbs converged towards the front in straight lines from points opposite the broadest part of the court. The cairn width at the east was 8.00 m. and its width at the point where it began to converge was 11.0 m. This appears to be the broadest part of the cairn as westwards the lines of the sides as far as they were exposed converge towards the rear. Taken in conjunction with the surface evidence a coffin-shaped cairn is clearly indicated. The cairn between the court and the kerbs stood about 2 m. high.

At the western end of the court an orthostatic lintelled gallery entrance was exposed measuring .50 m. wide and 1.00 m. high. Outside the base of the entry-ports a slab .40 m. high was set. Excavation clearly demonstrated that no blocking had been placed in the court in front of the entrance and the material there was clearly collapse from the court-walling and cairn.

The floor of the court which consisted of an irregular layer of "cobbles" yielded sherds of neolithic pottery with flat-topped, out-turned rim and stepped shoulder, a diminutive polished stone axe and hollow-scrapers of chert. Flint was rare but fragments of two finely bifacially flaked leaf-shaped "lance points" were found.

The fence noted before excavation yielded no finds in the portion examined. The nature of the collapse made it clear that it post-dated the cairn. It lay below the peat. However, since this is probably very considerably later than the tomb the date of the fence, pending further investigation, admits of a very wide range.

The use of dry-stone walling not only in the frontal facade and kerbs but also in the court perimeter is of special interest and contrasts with the orthostatic structure in the gallery. The poor sandstone used in the walling would be readily available in the immediate vicinity of the tomb but the large slabs used in the chamber might have to be quarried a few hundred yards distant from the site. The use of dry-stone work for the court perimeter emphasizes that in sites where surface evidence for orthostats is not present the possibility of dry-stone work less easily recognizable from surface indications must be kept in mind. Finally the fact that the low banks and the depression noted in Behy before excavation did, in fact, represent a court supports the view that comparable features at other sites, e.g., Aghaleague (Ma. 26) are true indications of the presence of courts. Indeed at a few sites, notably Glenulra (Ma. 9) surface indications, in the light of results at Behy, are most easily interpreted as indications of dry-walled court structure. The comparison between the shape of the court and that at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) with its more or less bottle-necked opening is very striking.

The excavation was undertaken by the present writers and Mr. Michael Herity of the Department of Archaeology, University College, Dublin. Monies were provided from the Excavation Funds under the Special Employments Scheme of the Office of Public Works and by grants from University College, Dublin.

4. **Glenulra.** O.S. 6:8:5 (80.2 cm., 33.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. G 071 406. Fig. 5. Plate 1.

Unclassified

Two of the tombs in Glenulra townland (Ma. 4 and Ma. 5) are situated near the top of a little valley which falls westwards into Glenulra. They stand close together in a sloping cultivated field immediately north of a laneway running down the valley towards the Glenulra River. The land in the vicinity of the tombs provides rough pasture and some tillage is undertaken. The lower parts of the valley are damp and rush-grown. The more northerly of the two monuments commands an extensive view across the sea to Slieve League in Co. Donegal but the other tomb is lower down the

slope and the outlook from it is restricted. The two monuments are known locally as "Adhlacain an fhir mhóir" (The burial of the big man).

This, the more southerly of the two tombs, is in a ruinous condition. Its main long axis is NW-SE. At the south-east are several stones which appear to be part of a gallery. The remainder of the gallery is perhaps destroyed or may be concealed beneath the stone fence and the road which skirt the monument at the south-east. Running north-west from the gallery, for a distance of about 18.00 m., is a stony hollow of irregular shape. The hollow reaches a maximum depth of 1.00 m. and is strewn with loose stones up to 1.00 m. in maximum dimension. These extend to the line shown by chain-dot on the plan.

Four stones of the ruined gallery remain. Two of these at the south-east are set more or less parallel and are 1.00 m. apart. The more northerly is .35 m. high and the other, which runs into the road fence, is .20 m. high. The function of these stones is not clear. They seem to be too close together to be gallery sidestones and they may represent some form of segmentation. One sidestone remains in situ at the south. It leans heavily inwards and if erect would be .40 m. high. At the north-west is a stone, 1.75 m. by 1.25 m. and .20 m. thick, leaning heavily to the south-east, which may be a displaced backstone.

In its present condition the monument cannot be classified. The remains at the south-east are almost certainly those of a megalithic gallery but they present no distinguishing features. The stony hollow may well be the remains of a long cairn which has suffered extensive robbing.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179.

5. **Glenulra.** O.S. 6: 8: 5 (80.3 cm., 34.1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. G 071 406. Fig. 6. Plate 2.

Unclassified

The monument stands in the same field and some 35.00 m. to the north-east of Glenulra (Ma. 4). It is very ruined. The remains consist of a gallery, at present 4.00 m. long and about 2.20 m. wide, orientated approximately E-W. The south side consists of three stones all of which are erect. Their heights from east to west respectively are: .45 m., .10 m. and .10 m. Two stones of the north side of the gallery remain. That at the east leans outwards. When erect it would be .75 m. high. The second stone stands 1.10 m. further to the west. It is a small partly concealed stone .15 m. high. A stone beyond the north side of the chamber is of uncertain function. It leans to the north and is .25 m. high.

Two stones, set transversely to the long axis of the gallery, are about .70 m. beyond the east ends of the gallery sides. One of these, leaning very heavily to the west, may be a sill. It is at least 1.40 m. long and when erect would be .80 m. high. Adjoining it at the south is an erect stone, .45 m. high, which may be a jamb. A small set stone, .20 m. high, stands about .30 m. beyond the presumed sill. Its function is unknown. There are some slight traces of a mound surrounding the structure but these are probably due to agriculture.

The tomb cannot be classified but the jamb and sill at the east suggest some affinity with the Court Cairns.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179.

6. **Belderg More.** O.S. 6: 9: 1 (7.0 cm., 27.4 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. F 994 401. Fig. 7. Plate 3.

Unclassified

The monument stands on the lower south-western slopes of Raheen Hill overlooking Belderg Harbour. Westwards, across the valley of the Belderg River, Glinsk and the hills south of it form the skyline. The hillside on which the tomb stands is covered with heather and loose stones. The valley below is partly cultivated.

The tomb is very ruined and is much concealed by the enveloping cairn. It consists of a broken gallery orientated roughly NW-SE. A partly displaced roofstone covers the south end of the gallery. Three stones of the more westerly side of the gallery remain. That towards the north is erect and is .50 m. high. The other two stones both lean inwards. When erect they would be .80 m. and .40 m. high respectively. The two remaining stones of the opposite side of the gallery also lean inwards. That to the north is .50 m. high and the other is .75 m. high. A displaced slab leaning against the last and another lying in the gallery may be broken orthostats or perhaps parts of the roof.

The more southerly end of the gallery is closed by two stones, one standing above the other. The lower stone which is much concealed in the cairn is at least .90 m. long. Its top edge is .65 m. lower than the sidestone at the east and .30 m. below the top of the opposite sidestone. The stone above it is 1.50 m. long, .15 m. thick and .45 m. high. A small stone (not on plan), .25 m. by .25 m. and .10 m. thick, is wedged between it and the lower stone at their eastern ends. Another small stone (not on plan), .45 m. by .15 m. and .10 m. thick, rests on top of it and supports the roofstone. The roofstone rests also on the more southerly sidestone at the east and on the cairn-mass at the west. It is 1.60 m. long, 2.80 m. wide and .30 m. thick.

The tomb is built on a natural hillock and hence it is difficult to define the limits of the cairn which is partly overgrown with peat. Taking the evidence as a whole, a roughly oval cairn, 17.50 m. long and 10.00 m. wide at the middle is probable. It rises to a height of 1.25 m. at the gallery.

The tomb presents no distinguishing features and cannot be classified in its present state. Disturbance and reconstruction is evident and probably accounts for the unique closure at the south.

7. **Belderg More.** O.S. 6: 9: 2 (13.6 cm., 27.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. G 001 401. Fig. 8. Plate 3.

Court Cairn

The monument stands on the spur of a hill about 150 yards east of the Ballycastle-Belmullet road. The land on the hillside is rough heather-grown bog. About 20 yards beyond the site, to the west, the ground falls sharply to flat, rather wet land and beyond the road rises again to form the south-eastern slopes of Raheen Hill. This lower land provides some rough pasture. Southwards from the site stretch the vast mountain bogs of Erris.

The tomb is very deeply embedded in peat. The exposed portion consists of a gallery, at least 4.00 m. long, orientated roughly NE-SW. Several almost concealed stones at the south-west end of the gallery seem to be part of the original roof.

At the north-east end of the tomb is a jamb and sill arrangement, which appears to be an entrance. The jambs are set longitudinally and are each about 1.25 m. high. The gap between them is 1.10 m. wide. The sill is at least 1.10 m. long and is about .60 m. lower than the jambs. Its south end is concealed. Resting against the jambs at the north-east is a fine slab, 2.00 m. by 1.10 m. and .45 m. thick, which is probably a displaced lintel.

The gallery sidestones are nearly all concealed by overlying slab corbels. One sidestone only of the more northerly side is visible. Its north-east end keys neatly between the jamb and sill and it is slightly lower than the sill, .35 m. of its height being exposed. Immediately north of the sidestone is a stone, .80 m. long, .50 m. wide and .30 m. thick, which appears to be a corbel. .40 m. outside this is a set stone, .45 m. high, of uncertain function. The continuation of this side of the gallery is indicated by two layers of corbels. Two stones of each layer are partly exposed. One stone of the upper layer is a split-boulder type stone resting with its rounded face downwards.

At the west end of the opposite side of the gallery is a partly concealed stone, exposed to a depth of .40 m. which is probably a sidestone. Above it is a small stone, .55 m. in maximum dimension, which supports a much concealed corbel. The north-east end of this side of the gallery is indicated by a single corbel.

The hollow to the east of the gallery seems to be largely due to digging into the front of the cairn. The level of its top edge is about equal to that of the tops of the jambs. The sides, which are rather steep, are about 1.00 m. high. Several stones are exposed in the face of the hollow and around the jambs and sill. Some of these are loose and others, though apparently set, may be nothing more than fortuitously exposed cairn stones.

Though in its present condition many details of the tomb are concealed, the jambs and sill and the typical court cairn type corbelling together with the eastern orientation of the gallery clearly show it to be of the Court Cairn class.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 138, C.

8. **Glenulra.** O.S. 6: 11: 3 (67.6 cm., 29.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400.
G 058 402. Fig. 9. Plate 3.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated about twenty yards west of the road from Ballycastle to Belmullet at the end of the northern spur of Maumakeogh Mountain. It stands on the bog-covered hillside overlooking the high cliffs along the sea coast to the north. The site commands a wide view northwards to Slieve League and the Donegal mountains and north-east beyond Downpatrick Head to the Sligo-Leitrim mountains. The land in the region is bleak mountain bog covered with heather, bracken and rushes. A bog-cutting runs close to the tomb at the south but no stones are visible in it.

The bog growth obscures the details of the greater part of the monument. The exposed portion consists of a small chamber with a jamb and sill arrangement leading to further structure largely covered in the peat. About 1.30 m. west of the jambs and sill is a displaced slab 1.70 in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick. North of this are three much concealed stones which seem to be high-pitched corbels. They are each at least 1.00 m. in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick. Beneath these is a stone (not on plan) which may be a gallery sidestone. It is at least .60 m. long and .50 m. high.

The jambs of the small chamber, which are set longitudinally, are well-matched stones. The northern is .75 m. high and the southern .85 m. high. The sill is .60 m. high. Adjoining the northern jamb and set in line with it is a sidestone .65 m. high. The two sidestones at the south form a curve. That to the west, which is set outside the jamb, is .55 m. high. The other is .65 m. high. Cairn stones are exposed in the hollow north of the chamber.

The jambs and sill of the small chamber and the high-pitched slab corbelling to the west indicate strong affinities with the Court Cairn class. The small chamber may be an end chamber similar to the type found at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) or, though this seems less probable, a side-chamber, cf. Behy (Ma. 3). Its exact relation to the rest of the monument can only be defined by excavation.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 138, B.

de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.G.A.H.S.*, (1952), 50.

9. **Glenulra.** O.S. 6: 15: 3 (64.2 cm., 14.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600.
G 054 386. Fig. 8. Plate 3.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated about one mile south of the Ballycastle-Belmullet road on the western slopes of the valley of the Glenulra River. It lies in a little hollow on the west bank of a tributary of that river. There is an extensive view northwards across the sea to Slieve League in Donegal. The slopes of Maumakeogh Mountain rise to the west and south and the high ground across the valley to the east forms the skyline on that side. The entire area is covered by a blanket of bog which, however, provides some rough grazing.

The monument has been greatly disturbed by later building. Its main axis lies approximately E-W. At the west end are the remains of a gallery with a single roofstone in position. The end of the gallery is closed by a backstone, exposed to a depth of 0.20 m., set outside the gallery sides. A small spall of stone, 0.15 m. in maximum dimension, resting on its north end supports the roofstone which does not rest directly on the backstone. A displaced stone of unknown function lies 0.50 m. north of the west end of the gallery and there is another about 1.00 m. to the south.

Three stones of the north side of the gallery are visible. That at the west is 0.45 m. high. It leans inwards. A small stone, 0.35 m. by 0.30 m. and 0.15 m. thick, is jammed between its top west end and the roofstone. The other two sidestones are each 0.40 m. high. Behind the more westerly stone of this side are two high-pitched slab corbels (not on plan—see photo, Plate 3) one resting above the other. The lower stone is 1.10 m. long, at least 0.40 m. wide and 0.10 m. thick. The second slab is 1.00 m. long, 0.85 m. wide and 0.30 m. thick. It protrudes slightly beyond the edge of the lower corbel into the gallery. The roofstone rests on its western end.

One stone only of the south side of the gallery is visible. It leans inwards and is 0.55 m. high. Two small stones, one above the other, lie on its east end. The lower stone is 0.35 m. by 0.30 m. and 0.10 m. thick. The stone above it, which is 0.40 m. by 0.30 m. and 0.10 m. thick, supports the roofstone. The roofstone rests also on the west end of the sidestone. It is 1.80 m. wide (N-S), at least 1.65 m. long (E-W) and 0.20 m. thick. It lies at a sharp slope and its western edge is concealed in the cairn.

A low wall of dry-stone work (shown by a special symbol on the plan), perhaps comparatively recent, extends for a distance of about 1.50 m. from the southern sidestone and runs into a heap of loose stones. These stones, which may conceal some of the gallery structure, cover an area about 1.50 m. (east-west) by 2.00 m. (north-south). Beyond this stony area is a low circular wall, about 0.60 m. thick, of loose stones (shown conventionally on the plan). The area enclosed is about 3.00 m. in diameter. There is an entrance about 0.80 m. wide at the east. Two set stones are exposed in the face of this wall at the north-west. The more westerly leans inwards and is a pillar-like stone 0.90 m. high. It may be an entry jamb. The other is 0.50 m. high and may be a courtstone.

The tomb can be classified with confidence as a Court Cairn. The west end of the gallery, though rather narrow, is remarkably similar to that of the transepted site at Behy (Ma. 3) and the high-pitched slab corbelling is of the typical court cairn type. The circular wall, though probably in part modern, is suggestive and may follow the line of a court.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 138, D.

NOTE—This may be the site mentioned in O.S. Hill Drawing Name Book F.—No. 6 for Co. Mayo (1840) p. 7 which states: "Clogh Awnagh—is understood by people to mean a Giant's Grave. This is the old name of the hill and takes its name from a Giant's Grave or other Druidical Erection on the ground and locally called Clogh Awnagh." The hill marked 950 on the 1921 edition of the O.S. 6" map is marked "Cloghawna" on the O.S. Fair Plan. Its summit lies less than half a mile from the monument here described.

10. Sralagagh. O.S. 6: 16: 2 (79.5 cm., 8.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. G 070 379. Fig. 10. Plate 4.

Court Cairn

The tomb is situated high up on the north-west side of the valley of the Bellanamin-naun River. The outlook from the site is confined to the valley except towards the north-east where the sea is visible beyond Downpatrick Head. The greater part of the valley is covered by a blanket of bog and extensive turf-cutting operations are in progress. The monument lies between two turf banks about fifty yards north of a new bog road running along the north-west flank of the valley.

The tomb is deeply buried in peat. It consists of a gallery, 4.80 m. long and about 1.80 m. wide, orientated approximately E-W. The gallery is well preserved but its eastern half is concealed in the bog. Two large roofstones resting above high-pitched slab corbels cover the western end of the gallery. Around the gallery a raised area in the peat, about 11.00 m. long and 7.50 m. wide, indicates the presence of a cairn below the

bog. A hollow running from the west end of the cairn to the rear of the gallery appears to be due to robbing.

The entrance to the gallery is indicated by two jambs set .50 m. apart. They are very well-matched stones of rectangular section with flat top surfaces. Only .10 m. of their height is exposed. One courtstone adjoins the northern jamb. It is .45 m. higher than the jambs but its top surface slopes downwards at the west where it is only .20 m. higher than the jambs. Above it is a heavy split boulder set with its flat surface uppermost. Several small stones exposed to the west of the courtstone are probably cairn stones. About 1.50 m. south of the southern entrance jamb is a stone, .15 m. high, of uncertain function.

The gallery structure is concealed for a distance of about 3.00 m. west of the entrance jambs. The edges of two almost concealed stones may indicate the line of the north side of the gallery. They appear to be corbels. A stone, .80 m. by .40 m. and .20 m. thick (not on plan), resting on the more southerly of these, may be another corbel. Several loose slabs, up to .90 m. in maximum dimension, lie in the centre portion of the gallery. An apparently well-set stone at the north side of the gallery is partly concealed by these stones. It could perhaps be a segmenting jamb but this is uncertain. It is at least .65 m. long and .35 m. wide. Only .10 m. of its height is exposed.

The two sidestones at the west end of the gallery are almost completely concealed by the peaty fill in the gallery. Only their top surfaces are visible. The backstone is set outside the ends of the sidestones. .65 m. of its height is exposed. Its top edge is broken and uneven and the gap between it and the roof varies from .30 m. to .50 m. Standing on edge in the hollow behind the backstone is a displaced slab, 1.85 m. long, .10 m. thick and .70 m. high.

The high-pitched corbels on either side of the west end of the gallery do not narrow the space to be spanned by the roof but serve simply to increase the height of the gallery. The first tier of corbels above the northern sidestone consists of two stones. The western is 1.40 m. long, at least .50 m. wide and .25 m. thick, and the other is .80 m. long, at least .50 m. wide and .15 m. to .20 m. thick. The western corbel does not bear directly on the sidestone but rests against three small stones, .25 m. to .35 m. in maximum dimension, jammed between its lower surface and the top of the sidestone. The adjoining corbel rests directly on the eastern end of the sidestone. Above it is a second corbel, 1.10 m. long, at least .60 m. wide and .25 m. thick, which supports the eastern roofstone. Three stones lie one above the other on top of the western corbel described above. The uppermost of these supports the western roofstone. The dimensions of these stones from bottom upwards respectively are: .90 m. long, at least .70 m. wide and .10 m. thick; .45 m. long, .40 m. wide and .12 m. thick; .20 m. long, .30 m. wide and .05 m. thick.

There are two tiers of corbels, each of two stones, visible on the opposite side of the gallery. The more westerly corbel of the lower tier is .40 m. long, at least .55 m. wide and .20 m. thick. The second corbel of the lower tier is 1.45 m. long, at least 1.00 m. wide and .20 m. thick. The stone above it supports the roofstone. It is 1.10 m. long, at least .30 m. wide and .25 m. thick.

The northern end of the eastern roofstone is concealed in the cairn-mass. This stone is at least 2.80 m. wide (N-S), 1.50 m. long (E-W), and .15 m. thick. It rests on the uppermost corbels on either side as mentioned above. Both north and south ends of the western roofstone are concealed. It is at least 3.90 m. wide (N-S), 1.50 m. long (E-W), and .15 m. thick. It rests on the small stone at the north side mentioned above and also on the cairn-mass on either side.

The length of the gallery suggests that it probably contained two chambers.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 137, (MA. 27).

11. **Ballyknock.** O.S. 6: 16: 3 (91.7 cm., 16.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. G 083 388. Fig. 11. Plate 4.

Portal Dolmen

The monument is situated on sloping ground on the western sides of the broad valley of the Bellanaminaun and Ballinglen rivers overlooking the site of Ma. 12.

The general slope of the land is from the west down to the east. The site commands a fine view across the valley to Bunatrahir Bay and to Downpatrick Head beyond. The tomb stands near the western edge of the cultivated land of the valley. Immediately beyond the tomb the sharp slope of the mountain begins. The lower slopes provide rough pasture but further up this gives way to gorse-grown bog. The tomb stands in the corner of a field which is at present under oats and potatoes.

The main long axis of the monument is approximately N-S. At the north end are the remains of a gallery consisting of two portal stones with a sill between them and two large displaced slabs lying at the east. Some 5.00 m. to the south are a group of large slabs which seem to be the remains of a second structure. Though a considerable amount of cairn connecting the two structures is present its limits are ill-defined because of the slope of the ground and the presence of a natural ridge at the east. It would seem, however, to be at least 13.00 m. long.

The two portal stones at the north end of the cairn stand 1.00 m. apart. The western portal leans inwards. It is 1.45 m. high. The opposite portal is .90 m. high. Crossing the space between the southern ends of the two portals are two stones of uneven height set parallel to each other. The more northerly of these is .40 m. high. The back of this stone is concealed and it is possible that it may be part of the stone behind it which is .55 m. higher than it. The large slab resting against the eastern portal is probably a displaced roofstone. It is 2.40 m. by 1.50 m. and .40 m. thick. The large displaced stone beside it may be a collapsed sidestone. It is at least 2.80 m. by 1.00 m. and .35 m. thick.

The stones at the south end of the cairn form no recognizable arrangement. Two of these, towards the west, lean against each other. The more northerly is 2.50 m. long, .30 m. thick and if erect would be 1.35 m. high. The second is 1.50 m. long, .20 m. thick and if erect would be 1.20 m. high. The bases of these stones may be approximately in situ but this is doubtful. Immediately east of these is a much concealed prostrate stone. A large displaced slab, 3.00 m. in maximum dimension and .25 m. thick, lies near the south-eastern edge of the cairn. North of this are two prostrate and partly concealed stones both .15 m. thick.

The structure at the north end of the cairn seems clearly related to the Portal Dolmen class. The nature of the structure at the south and its relationship to that at the north cannot, on present evidence, be determined.

12. **Ballyknock.** O.S. 7: 13: 1 (2.0 cm., 14.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200. G 086 385. Fig. 12. Plate 6.

Portal Dolmen

The monument is situated close to a farm-house on pasture land overlooking Bunatrahir Bay. The outlook is less extensive than that at Ma. 11, which lies to the east-south-east 300 yards distant.

The tomb stands in the angle formed by the junction of two fences. Two portal stones and a high sill are in situ. Behind these, to the south, are several partly concealed prostrate slabs which represent the remains of the collapsed chamber. The tomb is incorporated in a low L-shaped mound. This mound is probably not original and may, in part, be due to fence building. Eastwards from the tomb are two small mounds which appear to be the remains of a fence running into the monument. Two stones in the more westerly of the mounds are erect. The southern is .45 m. high and the other is .90 m. high. A prostrate slab, 1.10 m. in maximum dimension, lies on the second mound. East of this the edge of an almost concealed stone is exposed.

The western portal stone is split into three pieces all of which are erect. It is 1.90 m. high. Immediately south of it is a loose stone which may be a detached fragment of the portal. The opposite portal stone leans heavily to the east. When erect it would be about 2.20 m. high. The sill stone is 1.50 m. high.

Some 3.00 m. behind the sill is a large partly concealed slab which may well be the backstone of the gallery. It has collapsed outwards and only its southern edge is exposed. Its greatest dimension seems to have been at least 2.00 m. A loose block,

1.50 m. in maximum dimension, lies on the west end of this. Immediately west of the last is a much concealed slab which may be a collapsed sidestone. It would be about 1.30 m. high if erect. Beneath it is a stone of unknown function at least 1.10 m. in maximum dimension. About 1.00 m. north of the last is a loose stone, .75 m. in maximum dimension. Some 5.00 m. further to the north is a stone, .40 m. high, which leans heavily to the south. Two prostrate slabs lie on the mound 1.50 m. beyond the eastern portal.

Some 17.00 m. south of the presumed back of the chamber is a confused heap of stones two of which are erect. That towards the west is .50 m. high and the other is .90 m. high. Leaning against the last is a stone, 1.00 m. high, which may also be in situ. The remainder of the stones are loose blocks and small field-stones. This group cannot, on present evidence, be accepted as a proven megalithic chamber. There are no traces of a cairn connecting it with the structure to the north, which can be classified as a Portal Dolmen.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 163-164, Site B.

13. **Ballyglass.** O.S. 7: 13: 2 (12.8 cm., 10.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100. G 097 381. Fig. 13. Plate 5.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on level ground in the hinterland of Bunatrahair Bay. About 150 yards west of the monument the land rises in low ridges, which fringe the great area of mountain bogland, stretching away to the west. Eastwards the land falls gradually for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the Ballinglen River and then rises in a low ridge, beyond which the heights above Rathlackan form the skyline. South-east and south this high ground continues, interrupted by the narrow gap of the Ballinglen River to the south and the higher pass along the Heathfield River to the south-east. The land in the vicinity of the monument is used for tillage, pasture and meadow.

The monument is excellently preserved. It consists of a large, elliptical central court with a lateral entrance and with two segmented galleries placed opposite each other, opening on the narrow ends of the court. The structure is symmetrically designed, the long axis of the court being in line with those of the galleries. This main axis runs approximately NW-SE.

The court is 11.50 m. long by 7.25 m. broad. It is delimited by twenty-seven stones which average about .75 m. in height. The area enclosed is level and grass-grown and free from debris. The entrance to the court is in the centre of the north-east side. Here two well-matched heavy boulders, each approximately .75 m. high, form an entrance passage about 2.00 m. long and .65 m. wide, set at right angles to the line of the side of the court. At the junction of this passage with the court are several small, apparently fractured stones, firmly set. South-east of the more southerly entrance stone is a heavy block 1.20 m. in maximum dimension.

The south-eastern gallery is divided into two chambers. The entrance to the north-west chamber is between two well-matched stones set .50 m. apart and each .50 m. high. These stones, while part of the perimeter of the court, also act as jambs. This first chamber is 2.45 m. long and 1.90 m. wide. The orthostats of the chamber sides are partially concealed by the ground and also by heavy blocks overlying them. Two blocks, one at each side, seem to be displaced corbels.

The first chamber is divided from the second by a pair of well-matched jambs set .75 m. apart. They are each .60 m. high. Immediately north-west of the opening between the jambs is a block .50 m. high. It can scarcely be regarded as a sill, but it may, if original, have acted as a sealing of the second chamber. The second chamber is 2.85 m. long and 2.20 m. wide. The south-east end of the gallery is closed by one great slab .85 m. high. A flat slab lying on the larger orthostat of the south-western side of the chamber may be a corbel. A large roofstone, perhaps displaced from the front chamber of the gallery, lies in the eastern corner of the court. It is a fine slab, 3.00 m. long, 2.20 m. broad and .25 m. thick. It is raised on the courtstones on the south-east and its north-western edge rests on the ground.

The entrance to the north-western gallery is similar to that of the south-eastern. Two courtstones, set .65 m. apart and each approximately .60 m. high, act as entry jambs. The first chamber is 2.65 m. long and 2.20 m. broad. The north-eastern side is formed of two orthostats over which rests a slab .35 m. thick. Its top surface is flat and would serve as an excellent bedding for a roofstone. Its inner edge overlaps the orthostats but slightly. The opposite side of the chamber has, likewise, two orthostats, each supporting a heavy block. These blocks lie tilted against the outer top edge of the orthostats. They do not overlap the inner edges of the chamber sides and may have slipped outwards. The larger is a heavy block similar to the corbels in the first chamber of the opposite gallery, having a flat upper surface and a rounded lower side. Two large slabs, probably displaced roofstones, lie tilted in the chamber, the larger being 2.00 m. long, 1.40 m. wide and .20 m. thick, the other being slightly smaller. Another large displaced roofstone, 2.40 m. long by 1.75 m. broad by .25 m. thick, rests on the courtstones in the northern corner of the court.

The division between the first and second chambers is excellently preserved. Two slabs, each .65 m. high, slightly inset in the gallery walls, act as jambs. The south-eastern jamb is split. Over these stones and spanning the opening, is a fine lintel, almost 2.00 m. long, .65 m. broad and .30 m. to .40 m. thick. It would form an excellent bedding for a roofstone.

The second chamber of the gallery is 2.50 m. broad. A stone (hatched on plan), .75 m. long and .20 m. thick, almost flush with the ground, is very probably the butt of a backstone and if this is so, the chamber would have been 4.20 m. long. Two orthostats form the south-west side of the chamber. Over the more southerly rests a fine split-boulder corbel of the type described above. It slightly overlaps the inner edge of the orthostat. Against the other sidestone lies a slab, sharply tilted, which may be a slipped corbel. The north-east side of the chamber consists of three orthostats. Over the more northern of these is a corbel of the boulder type already described. The tops of the orthostats, especially on the north-east side of the chamber, are broad and flat, and excellently suited to support corbels.

Some mound is present but its shape is not clear. Banking along the sides, which is rather vague at places, especially on the south-western side, suggests a long elliptically-shaped mound, 35.00 m. long and 15.00 m. wide at the middle. Adjoining the galleries particularly in the angle of the court with the gallery walls, heavy stones are piled. These probably represent the heavier stones of the cairn acting as a strengthening to the cairn mass immediately outside the chambers. A number of stones exposed at the northern extremity of the monument are probably cairn stones, though, four at the south-west might perhaps be kerb stones. Interference by a fence at the south may have taken place. One large stone built into the fence a few metres distant from the tomb may have belonged to the monument.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 112-3, Tirawley No. 1 (Pl.).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 268-274 (Pl.).

Stokes: *Revue Archéologique* (1882), 18.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLII (1912), 116 (footnote 5).

Morris: *P.B.N.H.P.S.*, 1931-1932, 26 (Pl.).

Mahr: *P.P.S.*, III (1937), 426, No. 60.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 164-166, Site C (Pl. Phs.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 94, (MA. 1). *O.S.L.*, 14/E.19, 230.

14. Ballyglass. O.S. 7: 13: 2 (13.2 cm., 8.3 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100.
G 098 379. Fig. 16. Plate 6.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on gently sloping ground 250 yards south of Ma. 13. It is partially destroyed. The long axis runs WNW-ESE. At the WNW are several stones which probably indicate the presence of a frontal forecourt. Behind these is an

oval court leading to the meagre remains of a gallery. Some traces of a long cairn are present around the structure.

The remains at the WNW end of the monument are hardly sufficient to allow interpretation with certainty. There are some ten stones here but only three of these (hatched on the plan) are convincing. The largest, at the south-west, is a block .30 m. high. The two others, to the north-east, are .20 m. high and .40 m. high respectively. A stone, .35 m. north of the last, is .50 m. high and might possibly represent the articulation of the forecourt with a kerb. The other six stones of the group are of doubtful significance. Three are very small and the three larger may be displaced. A very slight banking, roughly semi-circular in outline and scarcely .25 m. in height, is discernible running almost parallel to the line of the presumed forecourt. This may be merely the result of cultivation but does seem to support the evidence for a forecourt.

The court is 8.00 m. long and approximately 6.00 m. broad. Fourteen stones of the perimeter remain. The entrance is between two stones set 1.20 m. apart. The more southerly is .50 m. high and the other .15 m. high. The north-eastern side of the court is complete. Two stones in the centre of this side are lower and smaller than the others, being .25 m. and .30 m. high respectively, while the stones immediately adjoining at each side are especially massive blocks 1.05 m. (western) and .70 m. (eastern) high, respectively. It is possible that this arrangement has some affinity with the lateral entrances noted elsewhere. The remainder of the courtstones are from .40 m. to .85 m. in height. Two excellently matched jambs forming part of the court perimeter mark the entrance to the gallery. They are thin slabs each .50 m. high. The entrance is .60 m. wide. Excluding the jambs at the court and gallery entries one stone only represents the southern side of the court. It is a fine slab .85 m. high.

Three, or possibly four, stones seem to indicate the position of the gallery. The largest of these, 4.50 m. south-east of the jambs, is a set stone .35 m. high. It is very probably part of the southern side of the gallery. The other stones are less certain. Parallel to the last described and 2.00 m. to the north-east, is a thin fragment set upright but rising scarcely .20 m. above the ground. It may be the fractured base of a stone of the northern side of the gallery. A third stone, which runs parallel to the southern jamb and 2.60 m. to the south-east, is a low, thin, set slab rising .10 m. above the ground. Its position suggests that it may be a fragment of a segmenting jamb. Another set stone, 1.25 m. south-east of the surviving southern sidestone of the gallery, may possibly represent further chamber structure but its position leaves its function doubtful. The remains of the gallery suggest that its main axis formed a slight but noticeable angle with the main axis of the court.

In the north-east corner of the monument some five stones, .30 m. to .80 m. in height, may be the remains of a kerb. The cairn has been much disturbed. Along the northern side of the monument a sharp slope is present and may give an indication of the original cairn edge. The line traceable along the south is due to tillage. The slight banking at the WNW end has been already described. The opposite end is complicated by apparently comparatively modern disturbance. The evidence suggests a long, probably straight-edged mound. At present it is 23.00 m. long and 10.00 m. to 13.00 m. wide.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 113, Tirawley No. 1 (last sentence).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 271 (lines 10-13).

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 167-8, Site D (Pl. Ph.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 94, (MA. 2).

15. Rathoonagh. O.S. 7: 14: 5 (37.4 cm., 1.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. G 123 371. Fig. 14. Plate 6.

Court Cairn

The two tombs in Rathoonagh townland, Ma. 15 and Ma. 25, are situated near the entrance from the narrow coastal lowlands around Ballycastle to the pass along the Heathfield River between Rathlackan hill at the north-east and Seefin hill to the south-west. The surrounding land provides good pasturage and some tillage is undertaken.

This, the more northerly of the two tombs, is very ruined. We were informed locally that field clearance over a considerable period of years had accounted for the progressive destruction of the monument. A large portion of the structure has been entirely removed. Many of the larger stones were buried during the clearance and dried patches in the grass were pointed out as indicating the position of the holes into which some of these stones were thrown. Little definite information as to the former appearance of the structure was forthcoming, except that it was said to have extended as far as the fence, to the west. This would indicate that it was some 25.00 m. longer than at present and that its overall length was at least 45.00 m. The description suggested a comparatively narrow cairn broader towards the east than at the west.

The remains, though scant, suggest the presence of an oval court approximately 8.00 m. long (north-south) and 7.00 m. wide. A group of four stones belonging to the western part of the perimeter of the court measure respectively, 1.00 m., .50 m., .40 m. and .25 m. in height, from north to south. The line of the southern part of the perimeter is apparently shown by one stone .40 m. high. Another stone, .90 m. high, set 6.00 m. north-east of the last, probably indicates the line of the eastern portion of the court. A set stone 1.00 m. south-west of this can hardly be part of the court perimeter and seems to be within the court. Its function, if original, is not clear. Two set stones beyond the presumed court, towards the north, may indicate a forecourt. That at the east is .60 m. high and the other, at the west, is .45 m. high.

Outside the western side of the court three stones forming a straight line may be the remains of a kerb. The most northerly is a very heavy block .85 m. high. About 5.00 m. south of this the two other stones are set close together measuring each about .25 m. in height. Some 4.00 m. south of these and perhaps continuing the line of the kerb is a fourth set stone about .70 m. high. Two blocks outside this line, to the west, are probably displaced.

Some low indefinite traces of a mound are present. The clearance operations have undoubtedly interfered with the outline. Loose field-stones suggest that some dumping has taken place. At present the mound is about 18.00 m. square with a protrusion 6.00 m. by 4.00 m. at its north-west corner. Three stones here, which average .30 m. in height, are of uncertain significance.

Despite the scant nature of the remains the indications of a court are sufficient to permit confident classification as a Court Cairn. The tomb is very probably of the full-court type.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 168-169, Site E (Pl. Ph.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 94, (MA. 3).

16. Lecarrowtemple. O.S. 7: 16: 4 (75.3 cm., 1.4 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. G 163 370. Fig. 17. Plate 7.

Court Cairn

The two tombs in Lecarrowtemple Townland are situated close to each other on pasture land about 200 yards south of the old road leading from Ballycastle to Castle Lackan. The general slope of the land in the area is from the north down to the south. Immediately beyond the more southerly of the two monuments, where two streamlets join, the land is damp and marshy. The situation commands a wide view southwards, from Nephin on the west to the Leitrim mountains to the east. Northwards the outlook is restricted by the Rathlackan heights.

This, the more northerly of the two monuments, consists of a small, almost circular court with the remains of a gallery at its more northern end. A fence, incorporating several large stones which may once have formed part of the monument, passes close to the court at the south. Outside the court, about .80 m. to the east, is a fine upright stone, .55 m. high, which however, may not be in situ. Some slight traces of a mound rising to a height of .25 m. are present at each side of the gallery.

The court is roughly oval in shape, measuring about 5.00 m. in length and breadth. It is well preserved except at the south-west where several stones appear to be missing. Some fourteen courtstones remain. Two of these, at the north, set .65 m. apart, serve as

entrance jambs to the gallery. They are a well-matched pair with flat tops. The western is .90 m. high and the eastern .80 m. high. The courtstone flanking the western entrance jamb is 1.00 m. high. The next three stones on this side are, .60 m., .60 m. and .30 m., high from north to south respectively. West of the last of these are three small stones, .10 m. to .25 m. high, which are probably cairn stones. The heights of the four courtstones adjoining the eastern entrance jamb are, .75 m., .70 m., .45 m. and .25 m. high, from north to south respectively. The more southerly of these, though apparently well set in the ground, may be fallen. A gap of about 1.00 m. separates this stone from the next three courtstones. These three stones break the regular curve of the perimeter. Their heights from north to south respectively are, .35 m., .30 m. and 1.00 m. The remaining courtstone stands 1.00 m. west of the last. It is .95 m. high. Its top surface slopes downwards to the west. Running southwards from the last is a set stone, .40 m. high, of uncertain function. A displaced stone, .70 m. in maximum dimension, lies at the north end of the last courtstone described and there is a small set stone, .25 m. high, to the south-east of it. About 2.50 m. south of the court, and close to the fence, is a small erect stone, .40 m. high, which may not be in situ.

The gallery is 2.20 m. wide and was at least 3.00 m. long. Two sidestones remain in situ at either side. Those on the west side are both .60 m. high. The more northerly of the stones on the east side is .20 m. high and the other .50 m. high. Two small points of stone, .15 m. high, are exposed beyond the north end of the west side of the gallery.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 95, (MA. 5), (Pl.).

17. Lecarrowtemple. O.S. 7: 16: 4 (75.6 cm., 1.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300. G 163 370. Fig. 15. Plate 7.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated less than 100 yards south-west of the last (Ma. 16) in the adjoining field. The tomb is ruined and is much overgrown. While the remains of a segmented gallery are clear some features are difficult to interpret. The long axis of the monument runs approximately NNE-SSW. The remains of the gallery are 7.60 m. long and at least three chambers seem to be represented. Three stones are in situ on the western side of the northern chamber. That at the north is set at right angles to the long axis of the gallery and, though protruding only .30 m. into the chamber, may be an entrance jamb. It is .65 m. high. The sidestone south of this is .20 m. high and the third stone is .60 m. high. Two set stones, 3.00 m. to 3.50 m. east of these, may be sidestones of the opposite side of the chamber. The southern is .30 m. high and the northern .50 m. high. A set stone, .30 m. high, running transversely, 1.25 m. north of the last, is possibly an entrance jamb and if so this chamber would be 2.30 m. long. A stone, .50 m. in maximum dimension, lying within the chamber beside the western side, is not set.

The division between the first and second chamber is marked by a jamb, .25 m. high, set at the western side. Its west end is concealed but it seems to run between the orthostats of the gallery side. The second chamber is 2.25 m. long and about 2.20 m. wide. The western side consists of two stones. The northern is .65 m. high and the southern .45 m. high. One stone, .60 m. high, remains in position on the opposite side of the chamber. It runs somewhat obliquely to the main long axis of the gallery. Two stones set in line and running north-eastwards from its outer face may be the south side of a side-chamber opening into the gallery. Both are well-set stones and appear to be an original feature of the tomb. That nearest the gallery is .70 m. high and the other 1.15 m. high. A stone, .40 m. high, immediately west of the last, seems to be collapsed. Its function is unknown.

There is a drop of .25 m. between the levels of the second and third chambers. The face of a segmenting jamb, .30 m. high, is exposed in the "step" between the two chambers, at the eastern side. A small point of stone, .70 m. west of this, may be the top of a second segmenting jamb. The third chamber was at least 2.20 m. long and is

2.00 m. wide. Two sidestones remain in situ on either side. On the western side the more northerly sidestone is 1.00 m. high and the adjoining stone is .50 m. high. On the opposite side the northern stone is .70 m. high and the southern .80 m. high. There are no indications of closure at the southern end of the gallery.

A number of small stones, none above .30 m. high, continuing the line of the eastern side of the gallery northwards, are difficult to explain. They may be the remains of an old fence. Southwards from the west side of the gallery are several stones from .30 m. to 1.00 m. in maximum dimension. One of these at the extreme south-west, may be a kerb stone. It is a well-set stone measuring .60 m. by .40 m. and .50 m. high.

The tomb is undoubtedly of the Court Cairn class. However, though at least three chambers are probable, the interpretation of many details, especially the design of what is tentatively taken as the front chamber, at the north, must await excavation. The indications of a side-chamber at the east also require verification.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 95, (MA. 6), (Pl.).

18. Shanaghy. O.S. 10: 6: 6 (39.0 cm., 31.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. F 734 346. Fig. 8. Plate 7.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated about 100 yards south of the road running eastwards to the old coast-guard station at Knocknalina. It stands on the side of a boggy hill overlooking the shallow cultivated valley extending south-west from the base of Blind Harbour. Towards the north-east the sea at Broad Haven and the cliffs along the coast are visible. To the south and east the rising ground of the hillside restricts the view.

The monument is deeply embedded in the bog. It consists of a gallery about 4.00 m. long, orientated roughly E-W, with a jamb and sill arrangement at the east. A displaced roofstone, 2.40 m. in maximum dimension and at least .30 m. thick, rests on the western end of the gallery. Several stones protrude .25 m. from the peat to the south and east of the tomb but these do not suggest other major structure. Some at least are probably cairn stones.

The more northerly of the jambs is 1.00 m. high and the other is .75 m. high. The distance between them is 1.30 m. The sill does not appear to run the full distance between the jambs but its south end may be concealed. It is .55 m. high. Touching the east end of the southern jamb is a stone .70 m. high. It leans heavily inwards but its base is probably in situ. Its function is not clear though it may be a courtstone. Immediately north of it is a small stone which may be a packing stone. An almost concealed stone, .45 m. in maximum dimension, at the east end of the northern jamb, may not be in situ.

The south side of the gallery consists of four stones. The two at the west are erect; the other two lean inwards. Their heights from east to west respectively are: .25 m., .25 m., .50 m., and .40 m. The more westerly of these is set at an angle to the general line of the other three and runs inwards towards the end of the gallery. This end of the gallery is closed by a stone .30 m. high. The northern side of the gallery is represented by a single stone, .50 m. high, which leans inwards. A displaced stone, .75 m. in maximum dimension, lies in the chamber towards the east.

The jambs and sill and the eastern orientation of the gallery suggest strong affinities with the Court Cairn class, though surface indications are insufficient to define the classification with certainty.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 138, E.

19. Gortbrack North. O.S. 11: 5: 4 (7.3 cm., 37.6 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. F 798 351. Fig. 6. Plate 7.

Portal Dolmen

The monument lies about sixty yards south-east of a small stream some 300 yards from the junction of the stream and the Owenduff River. The river valley is

intensely cultivated but the higher ground of Dooncarton Mountain to the north and Knocknaloher towards the south and east is rough mountain bog. The cultivated land is mainly under potatoes, corn, meadow and pasture. The outlook from the site is confined to the valley except towards the west where Inver Bay, an inlet of Broad Haven, is visible.

The tomb was in a ruined condition when visited by Cæsar Otway and Lieutenant Henri prior to 1841 and it has suffered further damage since. It consists of a chamber orientated approximately NE-SW. The south-east side is of one large stone and the opposite side of two smaller stones set end to end. At the north-east are three stones which have collapsed outwards. The roofstone rested on the gallery sides in 1841 but it is now broken into several pieces which lie within the gallery. The outline of the low mound which surrounds the tomb appears to be largely due to cultivation. A stone fence runs into the monument at the north.

Two of the stones at the north-east end of the tomb appear to be portal stones and the stone between them is probably a high sill. The more northerly portal, which rests on edge, leans heavily eastwards. Its south-west end is concealed. It is at least 2.00 m. long (i.e., high if erect), .80 m. wide and .40 m. thick. The opposite portal lies prostrate and has approximately the same measurements. The sill is also prostrate. It is .80 m. wide and .40 m. thick, and its length (i.e., its height if erect) is 1.00 m. Its top is pointed. Beneath the northerly portal is an almost concealed stone 1.20 m. in maximum dimension. It may have been part of the roof.

The stone forming the south-east side of the gallery is erect and is 1.20 m. high. Its top edge is bevelled. The more easterly stone of the opposite side is .60 m. high. It leans heavily inwards. The adjoining sidestone is erect and is .85 m. high.

Four large fragments in the gallery all seem to be part of the one roofstone. One of these standing on edge beside the south-east side of the gallery is 1.65 m. by .95 m. and .20 m. thick. The two pieces resting against the north-west side of the gallery measure 1.65 m. by .95 m. by .20 m. (eastern) and 2.25 m. by 1.55 m. by .40 m. (western). The fourth fragment lies on the last. It is 1.10 m. by .65 m. by .20 m. Beneath it is a stone, .60 m. in maximum dimension, which does not appear to be in situ.

Lieutenant Henri gives the dimensions of the roofstone as 9 ft. 8 ins. (2.95 m.) east-west, 8 ft. 2 ins. (2.50 m.) north-south and 1 ft. 4 ins. (.40 m.) thick at the west, tapering to 6 ins. (.15 m.) at the east.

The evidence of the present remains in conjunction with Lieutenant Henri's description strongly favour interpretation of the tomb as a Portal Dolmen.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 110-111, Erris No. 2 (Drg.).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 324-327 (Drg.).

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLII (1912), 132.

20. **Knocknaloher.** O.S. 11: 5: 6 (22.0 cm., 31.6 cm.). "Clochbrack" (not as an antiquity). O.D. 300-400. F 814 344. Fig. 6. Plate 8.

Portal Dolmen

The monument is situated on gently sloping ground near the east end of the valley of the Owenduff River. The outlook from the site is restricted by the valley sides but parts of Inver Bay and Broad Haven are visible towards the west and north. The valley and the mountain slopes are blanketed with heather-covered bog which provides some rough pasture.

The tomb is well preserved. It consists of a small polygonal chamber with a jamb and sill entry at the south-east. The sides of the chamber are each of two stones and the west end is closed by one large stone set outside the chamber sides. A displaced roofstone lying in the chamber rests against both stones of the south-west side and the backstone. The remains of a cairn, represented by a stony area approximately 7.00 m. in diameter, surround the chamber. The stones here are, in general, small but some are up to 1.50 m. in maximum dimension. One stone, .70 m. high (hatched on plan) at the south-east, is firmly set but leans to the south. Its function is unknown.

The entrance jambs are well-matched stones each 1.00 m. high. The gap between them is .50 m. wide. The sill which is set behind the west ends of the jambs leans inwards. It is .80 m. high. The eastern stone of the south-west side of the chamber is .85 m. high and the adjoining stone is .70 m. high. On the opposite side, the stone at the east is .75 m. high. The second stone here is very low—.20 m. high—and seems to be the butt of a larger stone, perhaps broken by the displacement of the roof. The backstone is .30 m. high. The roofstone is a heavy block 1.60 m. by 1.50 m. by 1.00 m. Its south-east end rests on the debris of small stones which cover the chamber floor. The chamber is 1.45 m. long (NW-SE) and about 1.60 m. wide (NE-SW).

21. **Faulagh.** O.S. 11: 10: 5 (32.5 cm., 17.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. F 824 330. Fig. 18. Plate 8.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on a flat grassy patch of ground high up on the north-western slopes of the Faulagh ridge. Knocknalower forms the skyline across the valley to the west while towards the north the hills at Benwee Head are visible. The floor of the valley is wet bog but higher up the heather-grown hillside provides rough grazing.

The monument consists of a gallery, approximately 2.75 m. long, orientated roughly NW-SE. The south-west side and north-west end are well preserved but the opposite side and the entrance, at the south-east, are damaged. Two somewhat displaced roofstones, one resting above the other, cover the greater part of the gallery. Several low stones exposed around the tomb may be cairn stones.

The south side of the gallery is of two stones, both of which lean inwards. That towards the east is 1.00 m. high and the other is .65 m. high. The opposite side of the gallery is of irregular construction. The western part consists of two stones set parallel to each other. Both lean heavily inwards. The inner stone is .45 m. high and the other is .65 m. high. Beyond these are two stones set at right angles to the long axis of the gallery. The more westerly is .50 m. high and the other is .40 m. high. The gallery side seems to be continued by a stone .90 m. long and at least .20 m. high.

The west end of the gallery is closed by a stone, .70 m. high, set outside the ends of the gallery sides. It leans heavily inwards and at the south rests against a small stone, .40 m. high, which stands at the end of the western stone of the gallery side. Behind the backstone and apparently serving as a doubling to it, is an erect stone .60 m. high. At the east end of the gallery is a stone, .90 m. high, which leans outwards. It may be a sill stone.

The lower roofstone, at the west, is 2.75 m. by 1.50 m. and up to .40 m. thick. It rests on the western stone of the south side of the gallery, on the inner backstone and on the outer stone at the west end of the north side of the gallery. The second roofstone is 2.70 m. by 1.70 m. and up to .55 m. thick. It rests on the lower roofstone, on the eastern stone of the south side of the gallery and on a flat stone, .85 m. by .65 m. and .30 m. thick, outside the eastern stone of the north side of the gallery.

22. **Faulagh.** O.S. 11: 14: 2 (31.8 cm., 12.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. F 824 324. Fig. 18. Plate 8.

Unclassified

The monument is situated almost $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the Ballycastle-Belmullet road on the southern slopes of the Faulagh ridge. The site commands an extensive view east-eastwards and to the south across Carrowmore Lake. Towards the west, part of Inver Bay is visible. The greater part of the hillside is heather-covered boggy land providing rough grazing for sheep and cattle but several grassy patches occur and it is upon one of these that the tomb stands.

The monument is very ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery orientated roughly E-W. At the west end, set .80 m. apart, are two fine erect stones which appear to mark the entrance. That to the south is 1.40 m. high and the other is 1.20 m. high.

The northern side of the gallery is represented by two stones. One of these, immediately behind the entrance stone, leans heavily to the south, and when erect would be .90 m. high. The second is greatly concealed. It is .35 m. high. Three stones of the south side of the gallery survive. Two of these are in situ but lean heavily outwards. That at the west is .85 m. high and the second is .35 m. high. The third stone, which adjoins the last, has collapsed to the south and is now almost prostrate. It is .65 m. long, .30 m. thick and would be .55 m. high when erect. A displaced stone, 1.20 m. in maximum dimension, lies outside the gallery to the south and there is another, .75 m. in maximum dimension, behind the entrance stone at the north side of the gallery.

The remains are insufficient to permit classification. The gallery was at least 3.50 m. long and appears to have narrowed sharply towards the east. The entrance stones would be quite normal in a court cairn but would not be out of place as the front of a wedge-shaped gallery.

23. *Muingerroon South.* O.S. II: 15: 4 (49.3 cm., 7.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. F 842 318. Fig. 19. Plate 8.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on the lower slopes of the Faulagh ridge somewhat less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of the Ballycastle-Belmullet road and little more than one mile east-south-east of Ma. 22. The rising ground of the hillside limits the view northwards but elsewhere the outlook is extensive though a low ridge across the road to the south conceals Carrowmore Lake which is only about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant. The heather-grown hillside provides rough pasture for sheep and cattle.

The greater part of the monument is concealed in the peaty soil and the stones rise but little above ground level. Some are exposed to a height of .70 m. but the majority are less than .45 m. above the surface and hence it is difficult in some cases to distinguish between structural stones and exposed cairn stones. However, the outline of a gallery, some 5.00 m. long, orientated NW-SE, can be traced. In front of this, at the north-west, is a grassy depression .50 m. deep and about 5.00 m. in diameter, which probably indicates the position of a court. Stones are exposed in places at the edge of this hollow and, though most of these are obviously cairn stones, some may, in fact, be the tops of courtstones. Though considerable remains of cairn seem to be present its precise shape and extent cannot be defined. Exposed cairn stones, and holes, apparently the result of digging into the cairn, indicate a length of not less than 16.00 m. and a width of at least 9.00 m. at the north-west.

The entrance to the gallery is between two well-matched jambs set .40 m. apart. Both are .60 m. high. Beside the more westerly jamb is a stone, .45 m. high, which is very probably part of the court. Another stone, .20 m. high, about .50 m. from the opposite jamb, may also be a courtstone.

The north-east side of the gallery is represented by three stones. The more northerly of these is .20 m. high. Between it and the next sidestone, which is .25 m. high, are two loose erect stones .40 m. and .25 m. high respectively. The third sidestone is .40 m. high. The opposite side of the gallery is less well defined. About .50 m. behind the entrance jamb is a sidestone .40 m. high. There is a gap of about 2.50 m. between it and the next sidestone. This stone is .30 m. high and the sidestone next to it is .25 m. high. The end of the gallery is closed by a stone, .70 m. high, set outside the ends of the walls of the gallery. A partly concealed stone in the middle of the gallery, though apparently set, may not be in situ. It may be a displaced lintel though this is extremely doubtful. A stone, .25 m. high, immediately south of this, may be the top of a sidestone or jamb but it is not certainly in situ.

The tomb is certainly a Court Cairn. The number of chambers in the gallery cannot at present be definitely established but the length indicates two chambers. The circular depression at the north-west is suggestive of a full court.

24. **Aghoo.** O.S. 13: 4: 6 (91.5 cm., 53.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. G 082 363. Fig. 20. Plate 9.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on rough mountain bogland on the south-eastern side of the valley of the Bellanaminnaun River. The site commands a fine view of the entire valley and overlooks Bunatrahir Bay and the sea to the north.

The tomb is deeply buried in the peat. It consists of a gallery about 7.00 m. long, orientated E-W, divided into two chambers. The entrance, at the east, is between two well-matched, flat-topped jambs set .80 m. apart. The northern jamb is .75 m. high and the southern is 1.00 m. high. Leaning against the northern jamb is a displaced stone 1.40 m. by .80 m. and .20 m. thick. A set stone adjoining the southern jamb appears to be a courtstone. It is somewhat concealed but it is at least 1.15 m. long and .35 m. high. There seems to be a stone in a similar position north of the entrance (shown by pecks on plan) but it is completely covered by moss and peat and its shape or dimensions cannot be ascertained.

The front chamber is approximately 3.00 m. long and 1.90 m. wide. The south side is formed of two stones set end to end. That at the east is .30 m. high and the other is .15 m. lower. At the east end of the opposite side of the chamber is a sidestone .30 m. high. A much concealed stone, split longitudinally, and continuing the line of the last, may be another sidestone. The chamber side is completed by another partly concealed stone .30 m. high. Behind this is exposed the edge of a stone .60 m. long. It may be the back of the stone last described but this is uncertain.

The second chamber, which is about the same length as the front chamber, is slightly wider than it. A pair of well-matched jambs, each .60 m. high and set .45 m. apart, divides the chambers. The sides of the second chamber each consist of three stones. The two more easterly stones of the south side are set in line but are outside the line of the side of the front chamber. The third stone runs inwards towards the west end of the gallery. The heights of these stones from west to east, respectively, are: .60 m., .75 m. and .65 m. Leaning on the east end of the second stone is a slab, 1.00 m. by 1.00 m. and .20 m. thick, which may be a displaced corbel. The more westerly stone of the north side of the chamber leans heavily outwards and it too runs inwards towards the backstone. If erect it would be .70 m. high. The other two stones are each .40 m. high.

The west end of the gallery consists of a single stone apparently gable-shaped. It is deeply buried in the peat and only .20 m. of its height is exposed. Above it is a greatly concealed roofstone, .20 m. thick, which seems to be somewhat displaced.

25. **Rathoonagh.** O.S. 14: 2: 3 (43.2 cm., 55.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. G 129 364. Fig. 24. Plate 9.

Court Cairn

This monument lies about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of Ma. 15. It stands 100 yards west of the Heathfield River, on sloping land which rises from the river to the hill of Seefin to the south-west. Beyond the river the ground rises fairly sharply towards the north-east to the ridge of Knockboha. The land in the vicinity of the tomb provides good tillage and pasture but some of the higher land is invaded by gorse.

The monument is reasonably well preserved. The long axis runs NE-SW. At the north-east are several stones which appear to be the remains of a forecourt. Behind these are three stones representing the north-western side of a small circular or perhaps oval court, opening on to a gallery. A considerable portion of a straight kerb runs along the north-west side of the monument. Some low indefinite traces of a mound are present. The low banking observable on the long sides is probably due to agriculture. No traces of cairn are evident at the south-west end. The natural slope of the ground makes interpretation difficult at the north-east. Here the outer edge, shown on the plan, may be due to agriculture. The pecked line shows the probable extent of cairn material.

Taking the evidence as a whole the cairn seems to have been long and straight-sided and was probably trapezoidal in shape. It would seem to have been at least 26.00 m. long.

Six stones at the north-east end of the monument apparently represent a curved forecourt. Three, at the west, are set closely together and their outer faces form an excellent curve. Their heights, from west to east respectively, are: .85 m., .70 m. and .75 m. East of these is a prostrate slab which may have formed part of the forecourt. The three set stones to the east form a less regular line. The position of the two more easterly stones suggest that the south-east part of the forecourt may have been angular rather than curved. The heights of these stones, from west to east respectively, are: .80 m., .50 m. and .80 m. Just north of the space between the first and second of these is a prostrate slab which may originally have stood in the gap. 2.40 m. eastwards is a heavy block rising .90 m. above the ground. It may not be in situ.

Three stones north of the gallery indicate the western side of the court. The first of these, close to the north-west side of the gallery, is a tall slab leaning somewhat towards the south. It is 1.20 m. high. About 3.50 m. north-east of this is a heavy block, .75 m. high. Its top is pointed. The adjoining slab is .65 m. high. These stones indicate a court some 6.00 m. long (NE-SW).

If the perimeters of both court and forecourt were complete there would probably be a gap of about 1.50 m. between the two at the presumed point of entrance to the court. It is quite possible that a short entry passage connecting court with forecourt, analogous to that at Ballybeg (Ma. 31), may have existed here.

Only one chamber of the gallery is visible. It is slightly wedge-shaped, being 2.80 m. wide at the north-east and 2.45 m. wide at the south-west. The north-east end is open at present but, as far as can be judged from the remains, the chamber would appear to be 3.30 m. long. The south-east side consists of two slabs. The larger, at the east, is a fine slab .65 m. high. The second stone is .95 m. high. The opposite side of the chamber also consists of two stones. That at the east is .80 m. high. The second is a pillar-like stone, .85 m. high, of square section.

The south-west end of the chamber is marked by a jamb 1.00 m. high. Across the gap between this stone and the south-west side of the chamber is an almost vertical bank of earth. A stone or stones may have been removed from here. The edge of a fairly heavy slab is visible just beyond the south-east corner of the chamber. Though no further structure is visible beyond this point the higher ground level may conceal a continuation of the gallery.

The kerb along the north-west side consists of a row of eleven set stones, about .40 m. in average height, forming a well-defined and fairly straight line about 18.00 m. long. Several small set stones are exposed elsewhere along the line. The tallest kerb stone, that at the south-east, is .95 m. high. Three displaced prostrate stones continue the line of the kerb to the north-east. In line with the kerb and 4.25 m. to the south-west, is a heavy stone, .70 m. high, which may be an indication of the extension of the kerb to this point. East of this are two stones, 1.00 m. and .75 m. in maximum dimension respectively, which may perhaps indicate the south-west end of the cairn. At the east corner of the monument there is a set stone, .40 m. high, and a row of four almost concealed stones south of this may represent part of a kerb along the south-east side.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 169-171, Site F (Pl. Phs.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 94-95 (MA. 4).

26. Aghaleague. O.S. 14: 3: 4 (52.7 cm., 46.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. G 139 354. Fig. 9. Plate 10.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on the south-western slope of Gallowshill about half a mile west of the tomb in Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27). The land on the hillside is wet heather-grown bog. Turf cutting is in progress in the vicinity of the site.

The tomb is very ruined and the remains are scant. Two pairs of jambs are in situ. Those at the south-east probably mark the entrance to the gallery. The more northerly is .75 m. high and the other is .70 m. high. The second pair of jambs stand 2.10 m. to the

north-west. The more southerly is .75 m. high and the other .30 m. high. The space between both pairs of jambs is .60 m. A prostrate stone at the south-west, 1.80 m. in maximum dimension, is probably a sidestone collapsed outwards. About 2.50 m. north of the more northerly pair of jambs is an almost concealed stone .15 m. high. It may be part of the more northerly side of a second chamber. A loose block, .50 m. in maximum dimension, lies about 3.50 m. south-west of this. A set block, .30 m. high, 1.20 m. south-west of the more southerly entrance jamb may be a courtstone. North-west of the gallery structure is a hollow in the peat which may indicate the position of a court.

Though the monument is very ruined the remains are sufficient to indicate with reasonable certainty that the tomb was a Court Cairn.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 96, (MA. 10), (Pl.).

27. **Barnhill Upper.** O.S. 14: 3: 5 (60.8 cm., 45.7 cm.). Shown by the symbol for a rock. O.D. 400-500. G 148 353. Fig. 25. Plate 10.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated near the top of a boggy hill almost one mile east of the Ballycastle-Killala road. The site commands extensive views south-westwards to Nephin and the Nephin Beg range and to the south-east across the basin of the River Moy to the Ox Mountains. Towards the north-west the sea is visible at Bunatrahair Bay. A short distance west of the tomb the ground falls to a small stream and then rises to the higher ground of Gallowshill beyond which Seefin Hill is visible. Bog cutting is in progress in the lower ground between the two hills. The land in the area, though wet and rush-grown, provides rough pasture. The nearest cultivated land is about a mile distant.

The monument is well preserved. Its main axis is approximately NNE-SSW. It consists of a long trapezoidal cairn enclosing at its wide, more northern end, the remains of a roughly oval court leading to a large gallery. Part of a kerb is exposed at the north-western corner of the monument and several other kerb stones are visible along the eastern side and at the south end. An earthen fence crosses the southern end of the cairn.

A short passage, about 1.50 m. long and 1.10 m. wide, leads from the front facade of the cairn to the court. The more western side of the passage consists of a single block .60 m. high. The opposite side is greatly concealed. Here, part of a stone, .20 m. high, is exposed. A small stone, .20 m. high, which crosses the passage, may be a sill but it is not certainly in situ. Outside the entry is a displaced slab, 1.90 m. by .80 m. wide and .40 m. thick, which may have covered the passage.

Four courtstones, two at either side of the entrance passage, are visible at the NNE end of the court. These are from .30 m. to .45 m. high. A bank, about .75 m. high, running westwards from the entrance, may conceal other courtstones but the remainder of this side of the court is incomplete. One courtstone, .30 m. high, is in position immediately north of the western side of the gallery. About 1.00 m. west of this stone is a stone, .50 m. high, which may be a courtstone, perhaps displaced. Along the east side of the court four stones are visible. The heights of these from the entrance outwards are: .30 m., .35 m., .75 m. and .75 m. Outside the more northerly of these is a collapsed stone, .60 m. in maximum dimension, which may be a displaced courtstone.

The court is 8.50 m. long NNE-SSW. The width cannot be determined with accuracy but was probably at least 8.00 m. It seems to have been roughly oval in shape with a sharp flattening across the front of the gallery.

The long axis of the gallery continues the line of the long axis of the court, the gallery entrance being directly opposite the entrance passage to the court. The entrance to the gallery is between two jambs set .50 m. apart. Both are .30 m. high. A small stone, at least .50 m. in maximum dimension, blocking the entry, is not certainly in situ.

The western side of the gallery consists of four slabs with flat top surfaces. These are all about .40 m. high. A corbel, .20 m. thick, covers the adjoining ends of the two central stones of this side and overshoots them to a distance of .20 m. into the gallery.

Between the corbel and the more northern of the two orthostats is jammed a small stone .10 m. thick. Two stones immediately outside this side of the gallery and north of the corbel are of uncertain function. That at the south is a loose block. The other which has collapsed to the west, may be a slipped corbel. South of the corbel is a split stone, .30 m. high, of uncertain function.

Three stones of the opposite side of the gallery are visible. The more northerly is .25 m. high. Immediately outside this is a stone which may be a displaced sidestone or corbel. The second sidestone is .30 m. high. A corbel, .30 m. thick, covers its north end. The third sidestone is .60 m. high. East of this is a prostrate slab, 1.50 m. in maximum dimension, which may be a displaced corbel.

The south end of the gallery is closed by a fine stone, .75 m. high, set slightly inside the ends of the gallery sides. It is about .35 m. higher than the western side of the gallery and .15 m. higher than the eastern side. Within the gallery and some 3.40 m. north of the backstone is a much concealed block at least .70 m. in maximum dimension and .55 m. high. It may be a segmenting jamb but it is not certainly in situ.

The gallery is 7.60 m. long. It is 3.15 m. wide near the entrance, 3.00 m. at the middle and narrows to 2.00 m. wide at the backstone. The number of chambers cannot be stated with certainty but the general shape suggests a two-chambered design. Moreover, if the block in the gallery is in fact a segmenting jamb, two chambers of more or less equal length would be indicated.

The greater part of the frontal facade of the kerb is exposed. Running westwards for a distance of about 7.00 m. from the entrance passage to the court is a line of four kerb stones up to .40 m. high. Running southwards from the west end of this line to the bank along the north-west side of the court is another line of four kerb stones. The two more northerly of these are merely stumps of stones rising barely .10 m. above the surface. The next stone is .35 m. high and the fourth stone is .55 m. high. No other kerb stones are exposed along this side of the monument.

East of the entrance passage to the court the edges of three frontal facade stones are exposed. The heights of these from west to east respectively are: .40 m., .15 m. and .30 m. Between the second and third is a block 1.25 m. by .75 m. and .55 m. thick. It seems to be part of the facade but may not be set in the ground and may rest on other stones. The kerb on the east side of the monument is represented by a number of set stones from .10 m. to .65 m. high. Many of these are largely concealed and it is not possible here to distinguish between kerb stones and exposed stones of the cairn. Incorporated in the bank crossing the southern end of the cairn is a very heavy block, .95 m. high, which seems to be part of a kerb at the back of the cairn. Lying south-west of this is a slab which appears to have collapsed outwards. It too may have been a kerb stone. North-west from this a small set stone, .30 m. high, exposed in the face of the bank, may also be a kerb stone.

The monument measures 29.00 m. along its main axis. The front facade would seem to have been about 17.50 m. long and the south end about 10.00 m. or less, in length. At some places the cairn reaches beyond the line of the kerb but at no point does it extend more than 3.00 m. beyond it. This extra-revetment material is probably due to spill from the cairn.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 96, (MA. 11), (Pl.).

28. **Ballybeg.** O.S. 14: 10: 6 (44.0 cm., 22.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. G 113 333. Fig. 21. Plate 10.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on rolling bogland about two-thirds of a mile north-west of Ballybeg (Ma. 31). It lies approximately 100 yards east of one of the many streams which drain the bog. The general slope of the land in the vicinity is from the west down to the east. There are extensive views from the site except towards the north-west where Seefin Hill forms the skyline and to the west where rising ground limits the view. Eastwards, Killala Bay and the coast beyond are visible. There is some poor pasture

on the bog in the vicinity of the tomb. Small trees and bushes grow in places along the streams. Tree stumps are visible in some of the bog cuttings near the monument.

The tomb is very deeply buried in the bog and very little of the structure is exposed. It consists of a gallery orientated approximately NW-SE. At the west three erect stones forming the end of the gallery are visible. The backstone is .95 m. high and the sidestone at the south is .75 m. high. Both stones have flat inner faces and sloping outer surfaces. The second sidestone is .50 m. high. Its top surface is flat. In front of these the tops of two stones are exposed. That at the south is a small loose stone but the other, which is exposed to a depth of .15 m., may be the top of a segmenting jamb, but this cannot be decided without excavation. Beyond these and some 4.00 m. east of the backstone are two well-matched jambs .70 m. apart. That at the south is .35 m. high and the other is .20 m. high. Both stones are erect. Further to the east the tops of two stones are visible but the function of these is uncertain. That nearest the gallery is of split-boulder type and is set with its flat face northwards. .15 m. of its height is exposed. The other is exposed to a depth of .35 m.

Though the greater part of the monument appears to be concealed the structure at present visible indicates clearly that the tomb is of the Court Cairn class.

29. **Creevagh More.** O.S. 14: 14: 4 (25.6 cm., 6.9 cm.). "Burial Ground." O.D. 100-200. G 110 313. Fig. 26. Plate 11.

Court Cairn

The monument lies on steeply sloping ground on the eastern side of the long narrow valley of the Glenedagh-Ballinglen river which flows northwards to the sea at Bunatrahir Bay. High ridges form the skyline to the west and north and towards the south Nephin Mountain is visible. The tomb stands in a tilled field on a belt of cultivated land on the lower slopes of the hillside but about 150 yards to the east the land changes to rough gorse-grown pasture. There are, however, signs of old cultivation in this rough pasture. Some light ash trees grow on the crest of the hill.

The site is densely covered in a heavy growth of blackthorn trees and bramble. A large amount of cairn is present and conceals the greater part of the gallery structure. The main long axis runs E-W. At the east is a bank, about 1.00 m. high and up to 2.50 m. wide, enclosing an area approximately 8.00 m. in diameter. The bank, which is probably not an original feature, appears to follow the line of a court which may have been roughly circular in plan. The inner face of the bank is lined with stones, many of which are obviously court orthostats. Sixteen of these (shown hatched on plan) forming somewhat more than a semicircle in front of the gallery structure can be taken with confidence, as courtstones, in situ. These vary in height, from just above ground level to .50 m. At the east, however, courtstones are less easy to identify and though some, at least, of the stones here are very probably courtstones none can be definitely accepted without excavation. Some are up to .70 m. in height but many are almost concealed. About 2.50 m. beyond the bank, to the east, is a fine erect stone 1.20 m. long by 1.00 m. wide and 1.30 m. high. Owing to the uncertainty as to the exact design of the eastern part of the court it is not clear whether this stone is part of an entry feature or not.

Two of the courtstones serve also as entrance jambs to the gallery. They are well matched and stand .70 m. apart. Both are deeply buried in the cairn. The northern is .30 m. high and the southern .40 m. high. The gallery is almost completely buried in a great mass of heavy cairn material extending for a distance of some 12.00 m. west of the court. Two gallery orthostats can be identified. One of these, 1.00 m. west of the southern entrance jamb, is a sidestone .45 m. high. It is greatly concealed. The second which is the backstone of the gallery, is set 6.50 m. west of the entrance. It is an erect stone and .80 m. of its height is exposed. Between it and the entrance are heavy stones of split-boulder type similar to the corbels found at many court cairns. A stone, .70 m. high, set 2.00 m. south-east of the backstone, may be a sidestone but without clearance this cannot be accepted with any certainty.

Despite the considerable remains of cairn present reliable dimensions are difficult to obtain. Field debris has been dumped on the site and the heavy overgrowth hinders

examination. It would seem, however, to have been at least 27.00 m. long. The west end has been used as a quarry and here a step, about 1.00 m. high, seems to mark the limit of the disturbance. Cairn material extends about 3.00 m. beyond this and may have extended considerably further. The edge shown by heavy line on the plan shows the limits of the cultivated area around the tomb.

The monument consists of a court, probably a full court of about 8.00 m. diameter, leading to a gallery 6.50 m. long. The length of the gallery suggests that it may have been divided into two chambers.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 116, Tirawley No. 15, lines 21-24.

Stokes: *Revue Archéologique* (1882), 17.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 174-175, Site Q. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 95. (MA. 7).

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 276.

30. **Creevagh More.** O.S. 14: 14: 4 (27.0 cm., 5.5 cm.). "Burial Ground." O.D. 200-300. G III 311. Fig. 17. Plate 11.

Court Cairn

The monument lies about 300 yards south-east of the last (Ma. 29), higher up on the slopes of the eastern side of the valley of the Ballinglen River. The site stands on gorse-grown rushy pasture above the present edge of the arable land, though old cultivation ridges on the field around the tomb show that tillage had extended higher on the valley slopes in comparatively modern times.

The tomb consists of a well-preserved full-court from the SSE end of which a gallery, now largely destroyed, opened. The entrance to the gallery is between two large jamb stones which form also part of the court perimeter. These stones are set erect .75 m. apart. The maximum exposed height of the more easterly is 1.30 m. and that of the more westerly 1.10 m. Adjoining the more westerly jamb is a sidestone of the gallery, .50 m. high. It is a split boulder set erect with its flat surface inwards towards the chamber. About 1.00 m. from the other jamb is an erect sidestone of the opposite side of the gallery .85 m. high. Between this sidestone and the jamb lies a small loose stone .15 m. thick. Inside the same sidestone a large block, .70 m. by .70 m. and .25 m. high, could possibly be a jamb of a segmentation, perhaps collapsed in the direction of the gallery entrance, while outside the sidestone, a block, .90 m. by .55 m. by .25 m. may not be in situ.

In addition to the entry jambs eight stones form the more westerly arm of the court perimeter and six are present on the eastern arm. The courtstones are unevenly exposed and though their heights range from .10 m. to .50 m., there is no noticeable gradation of height among them. They are all about .90 m. to 1.00 m. lower than the top of the taller entry jamb. The ground level around them averages about .25 m. higher than that in the chamber area. These stones seem all to be in situ though that immediately adjoining the more easterly entry jamb could possibly be pitched outwards.

The court entry between the arms at the NNW is .90 m. wide. Three stones lie within this gap. The outermost is a loose piece of stone .50 m. by .40 m. and .15 m. thick and is obviously not structural. The other two are firmly fixed. Both are .35 m. high and .15 m. lower than the adjoining courtstones. If they are in situ they would act as a closure to the court entry but this is uncertain. A small stone immediately outside the court, at the north-west, is loose. It measures .45 m. by .40 m. by .30 m.

About 1.50 m. outside the western side of the court are two firmly embedded stones of uncertain function. The more northerly of these is .45 m. high and if structural, could belong to a kerb or frontal facade. Some 2.50 m. due south of this is a loose block .70 m. by .60 m. and .20 m. thick.

Immediately outside the courtstones four blocks form an arc roughly parallel to the court perimeter extending from the westerly side of the gallery for a distance of some 2.50 m. These are .40 m. to .60 m. in height. While they might appear to represent a doubling of the court wall the largest of them, the second from the entry, is loose. If they are in original position they are best compared with the heavy stones found in similar

positions outside the junction of the court and gallery at other sites, e.g., Carbad More (Ma. 36). It is likely therefore that they are to be considered as merely heavy cairn material rather than as orthostats.

The edge of a mound is traceable around the northern end of the court. A low fence runs along the eastern side. A few stones are incorporated in this fence and though some might belong to a kerb they are too concealed to permit of any decision. Continuing the line of the fence at a distance of about 4.50 m. from a point opposite the court entry is a stone .70 m. long, .55 m. wide and .45 m. high. It stands in a hollow possibly a drain and cannot be considered an original part of the tomb.

Again in line with the fence and 9.00 m. due north of the court entry is a set stone 1.00 m. long, .75 m. thick and .75 m. high. It stands beyond the hollow on ground roughly equal in elevation to the general level of the tomb. Near it, protruding barely from the sod, are several other stones. It is quite possible that this stone belongs rather to the fence than to the tomb though the presence of the large orthostat outside the court at Creevagh More (Ma. 29) might suggest an analogy. Behind the gallery rough ground and heavy gorse obscure the site. A fence runs approximately NNW-SSE about 10 m. behind the gallery entrance.

The previous doubts as to the acceptance of this site as a Court Cairn have proved, on subsequent examination, groundless. The suggestion that the perimeter had a doubled wall was based on the acceptance of several loose stones as structural. The court shape compares very closely with Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 16).

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 175 (Ph.).

31. Ballybeg. O.S. 14: 15: 1 (51.7 cm., 14.4 cm.). "Cloghabracka" (not as an antiquity). O D 200-300. G 137 320. Fig 27. Plates 11 and 12.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on fairly level ground near the end of the broad ridge which extends southwards from Seefin Hill. Towards the south-east the land falls away towards the valley of the Cloonaghmore or Palmerstown River. The land immediately around the tomb is wet pasture, overgrown in places with rushes and gorse. The field in which the tomb stands has been tilled in the past and the adjoining fields to the east are tilled at present. Towards the north-west the land becomes rough and gorse-grown but provides some grazing.

The monument is well preserved. The long axis runs approximately E-W. The structure consists of a forecourt at the east, leading through a short passage to a fine oval court which gives access to a ruined gallery. There are some indications that side-chambers opened off either side of the gallery. Beyond the gallery, to the west, are a large number of big stones most of which are firmly embedded in the ground. These form no recognizable pattern and may be only large cairn stones.

Ten stones, .50 m. to 1.00 m. in height, of the frontal forecourt, are in position. They form a segment of about one-third of a circle 10.00 m. wide (N-S) and 3.50 m. deep (E-W). A further stone, .60 m. high in its present position, lies in the fosse of the fence at the north. It may be displaced from the forecourt. The extent to which the building of the fence interfered with the structure is not certain but the space between the forecourt stones and the fence at the south-east side rather suggests that interference may not have been great. A stone, 1.00 m. south of the last forecourt stone at the south-east corner, does not continue the line of the forecourt perimeter. It may indicate the junction of the forecourt facade with a kerb.

Four excellently matched stones form an entrance passage between the forecourt and the court. Two of these, which belong to the frontal facade, are .50 m. (northern) and .75 m. (southern) high. The other two, belonging to the perimeter of the court, are each .75 m. high. The tops of all these stones are broad and flat. The entry passage formed by them is 1.70 m. long and .90 m. broad.

The court is delimited by some seventeen stones and the perimeter is complete except for a few gaps in the southern side. It is 8.50 m. long (E-W) and 6.00 m. wide (N-S) at the middle. The courtstones vary in height from .95 m. to 1.15 m., the stones in the

western half being, in general, higher than those in the eastern. The two stones flanking the jambs at the entrance to the gallery, .95 m. high (northern) and .85 m. high (southern), are the highest and the height of the stones tends to diminish proceeding eastwards. The entrance jambs to the gallery also form part of the court perimeter. They are well-matched slabs standing .70 m. apart. The northern is .40 m. high and the southern is .55 m. high.

The gallery contains a considerable amount of fill. It is 5.70 m. long at present and about 2.50 m. wide. The north side consists of three stones. The first is a large block rising .30 m. above the chamber fill. The second is a very small block and is the same height as the last. The third stone is a very massive block .80 m. high. Two stones only of the south side of the gallery are visible and they protrude scarcely .10 m. above the ground.

Two slabs, set at right angles to the gallery sides, about 4.00 m. west of the entrance jambs, may be segmenting jambs leading to a continuation of the gallery. That on the north leans very heavily to the west. It is almost prostrate but its base may be approximately in situ. If erect it would be .75 m. high. The second slab is almost concealed in the ground and only its top is exposed. If the northern slab were erect there would be a gap of .40 m. between it and its partner. About 1.00 m. east of these two slabs a stone leaning heavily to the east is probably not in situ.

Several set stones outside the gallery on both north and south sides suggest the presence of side-chambers opening into the gallery. On the south is a fine slab, .50 m. high, running parallel to the gallery side and 1.85 m. from it. It may well be the back-stone of a side-chamber. Running northwards from its west end is a stone which may indicate the side of such a chamber. The evidence on the north is less convincing. Here, two partly concealed stones set at right angles to the gallery side may represent the sides of a second side-chamber. A third stone here, set behind the large courtstone flanking the northern jamb, may be a buttress but could be part of a side chamber arrangement.

The edges of a low mound are visible along both long sides of the monument. Two fences, one at the west, and one at the east, run across the extremities of the mound. It is unlikely that the mound extended beyond the position of these fences. Present indications suggest that the mound may originally have been trapezoidal in shape. It is about 36.00 m. long, 20.00 m. wide near the east, and 17.00 m. wide near the west.

Four stones inside the edge of the mound, at the north-west, may be part of a straight kerb. The more western of these is embedded in the fence. Their heights, from west to east respectively, are: .55 m., .35 m., .30 m. and .15 m. One or two stones and some dry patches in the grass on the south side may indicate the position of a line of kerb stones here also.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 116, Tirawley No. 15.

(NOTE—The O.S.L. description quoted refers to Ma. 29 in Creevagh More Td.)

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 173-174 (Pl. Phs.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 95-96, (MA. 9).

32. **Rooghan.** O.S. 14: 15: 4 (53.1 cm., 0.8 cm.). Shown as rock outcrop. O.D. 100-200. G 138 306. Fig. 28. Plate 12.

Court Cairn

The monument stands on gently undulating ground almost one mile south of Ballybeg (Ma. 31). The general slope of the land is from north-west down to south-east. The soil in the area is of good quality and is used as grassland and tillage. In the lower areas the land is wet and badly drained.

The monument is partially ruined. It consists of a gallery, orientated roughly NNW-SSE, divided into two chambers by a pair of jambs. In front of the entrance to the gallery, at the south-east, is a stony area which may indicate the position of a court. Though many of the stones here are large and firmly fixed in the ground none can be taken as certainly in situ. Some traces of a mound are present to the south and east of the structure. A fence passes close to the monument at the south-west.

The entrance to the gallery is between a pair of jambs each approximately 1.10 m. high. The gap between them is .40 m. wide. Beside the more westerly jamb is a court-stone, also 1.10 m. high. Two stones of the eastern side of the chamber remain in situ. There is a gap of 1.00 m. between them which may have been filled by a missing stone. The more southerly stone is 1.35 m. high. The second stone is a fine slab, 1.60 m. high, with a flat top surface. One stone only of the opposite side of the chamber is in position. It is 1.10 m. high. Leaning against the last described stone and almost parallel to it is a stone .70 m. high. It does not seem to be in original position and is possibly a slipped corbel. A displaced slab of uncertain function lies immediately inside the entrance jambs.

The segmenting jambs are each about 1.00 m. high. The entry between them is .60 m. wide. Behind the more easterly jamb is a second stone which reaches almost as high as the jamb and may be split from it.

The second chamber is largely filled. The edge of what appears to be a roofstone, about .35 m. thick, protrudes from the fill between the jambs. The eastern side of the chamber consists of two stones. That nearest the jambs is .70 m. high and the other is .95 m. high. Only one stone remains on the opposite side. It is 1.00 m. high and protrudes .50 m. above the chamber fill. A heavy stone lying prostrate on a small mound at the north end of the chamber may be a collapsed backstone. The second chamber was at least 2.80 m. long and is 2.35 m. wide.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 175-176, Site R (Pl. Phs.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 95, (MA. 8).

33. Breastagh. O.S. 15: 5: 4 (2.6 cm., 34.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. G 183 340. Fig. 29. Plate 13.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This is the most northerly of the group of megalithic monuments which lie on either side of the road leading to Lackan Bay. It stands in a pasture field on a low ridge overlooking the estuary of the Cloonalaghan River which enters the Bay one and a half miles north of the site. Across the road, to the east, the ground rises to another low ridge which forms the skyline. There is a wide view westwards across rolling country and to the south Nephin Mountain and the Nephin Beg range are visible. The land in the area is mostly under pasture but some tillage is undertaken. Gorse grows on neglected ground and covers the tops of the ridges. Trees grow in sheltered places and there are plantations around Summerhill House about half a mile south-east of the site.

The monument is very ruined. At the south and aligned roughly NE-SW¹ is a line of six erect stones probably representing an outer-wall. These diminish in height from south-west to north-east, their respective heights being: 1.50 m., 1.30 m., 1.20 m., .80 m., .95 m. and .65 m. At the north-east end of the line a prostrate stone, .40 m. thick, may have belonged to the row. Two loose stones lie 2.00 m. further to the north-east.

Some 3.00 m. north-west of the more westerly stone of the row described above is a stone .60 m. high. Its position suggests that it may be part of a facade. 1.00 m. north of this is another set stone, .70 m. high, which may perhaps be the sole remnant of a gallery. Immediately west of it is a stone, .25 m. high, of uncertain function. It may not be in situ. Another stone, 1.20 m. in maximum dimension, .75 m. to the north, seems to be collapsed. Further eastwards two orthostats, set close together (hatched on plan), may belong to an outer-wall. They are each about 1.25 m. high. Near the more easterly of these, four small set stones, from .10 m. to .30 m. in height, are of uncertain function. A large prostrate block, 1.60 m. in maximum dimension, lies near the north-western corner of the mound.

There are considerable remains of a mound surrounding the structure but it is distorted by cultivation and by three low banks which run into it towards the east. Four stones incorporated in the more southerly of these banks do not seem to be related to the tomb.

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

Though the remains of the monument are scant, the evidence suggests that it was probably a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave, perhaps of somewhat similar design to that at Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35).

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 114, Tirawley No. 4, duplicated 115, lines 20-22.

Rhys: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 233.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site H.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285 (Excursion).

J.R.S.A.I., XXIX (1899), 62 (Photographic Collection).

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 184.

34. Cloonboy. O.S. 15: 9: 1 (3.2 cm., 29.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200.
G 184 335. Fig. 22. Plate 13.

Court Cairn

The monument stands on the roadside at the south-west corner of Mullaghnacross cross-roads. The site, which is on the crest of a ridge, commands extensive views in all directions except towards the north-east where somewhat higher ground about a quarter mile distant forms the skyline. The tombs at Breastagh (Ma. 33) and Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) are visible from the site. The land in the vicinity of the tomb is mostly pasture but some tillage is undertaken.

The tomb is ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery, 7.00 m. long, orientated roughly E-W. A fence runs close to the gallery at the south and beyond this is a shallow quarry. The construction of the road has cut into and disturbed the north side of the monument. Some cairn material is present around the gallery but it is difficult to distinguish original material from more recent upcast and disturbance. The gallery contains a considerable amount of fill.

The south side of the gallery is represented by six stones. Three of these are set end to end, at the east. Their heights from east to west respectively, are: .55 m., .20 m., and .40 m. Beside the more westerly of these the surface of a stone, .55 m. by .40 m., is exposed. It may be the top of a sidestone, but this is uncertain. The heights of the remaining three sidestones from east to west, respectively, are: .65 m., .30 m. and .15 m. The more westerly of these is greatly concealed. Between the gallery and the fence, towards the east, two low stones are exposed. They seem to be of no special significance and are probably cairn stones.

Two stones of the north side of the gallery remain in position, at the west. The more easterly is .75 m. high and the other is .50 m. high. Beside the last is a stone which seems to have collapsed to the north. It may have been part of the gallery side. Near the middle of the gallery and somewhat inside the line of the north side is a set stone .45 m. high. It may well be a segmenting jamb.

Outside the line of the gallery orthostats on the north side are a number of large stones exposed in the slope between the gallery and the road. Several of these, though firmly fixed, may not be in situ. Some, at least, appear to have slid down the slope. Their function is uncertain. A very large stone lies prostrate at the east end of the gallery. Its function is unknown. It is 1.90 m. by 1.30 m. by .80 m. Just north of this is a stone which leans very heavily to the north. It may be a sidestone but this is most uncertain. It would be .75 m. high if erect.

The tomb cannot, on present evidence, be classified with certainty. However, the clear suggestion of "waisting" of the gallery sides near the middle and the presence there of a probable segmenting jamb make it likely that the tomb belongs to the Court Cairn class.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 114, under Tirawley Nos. 8-11, lines 27-28.

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 205.

Rhys: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 233.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site 1.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285 (Excursion).

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 184.

35. Rathfranpark. O.S. 15: 9: 1 (3.3 cm., 27.1 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to nearby destroyed stone circle). O.D. 100. G. 184 333. Fig. 23. Plates 13 and 14.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, which lies about half a mile NNE of the tomb in Carbad More (Ma. 36) is situated immediately east of the road leading northwards to Lackan Bay. It stands in a pasture field overlooking the estuary of the Palmerstown River towards the south-east and beyond this the outline of the Ox Mountains, in Co. Sligo, can be seen. Low ridges form the skyline to the north and north-west. Towards the south and south-west Nephin and the Nephin Beg range are visible. The land in the vicinity of the tomb is mostly pasture but some tillage is undertaken.

The monument is in a fair state of preservation. It consists of the remains of a gallery, orientated approximately E-W, flanked on the north and south by single lines of outer-walling composed of exceptionally massive stones set about 1.00 m. from the gallery sides. The east end of the monument between the two lines of outer-walling has been used as a dump for debris from the nearby Stone Circle,¹ which has been entirely removed within the past ten years. This dump, which consists of rather large stones, some of which are up to 1.80 m. in maximum dimension, obscures the original design of the eastern end of the tomb.

The gallery was at least 3.00 m. long and is about 2.00 m. wide. At the west and apparently marking the entrance, are two low, jamb-like stones 1.00 m. apart set inside the lines of the gallery walls. The stone at the north is .45 m. high and the other is .25 m. high. Immediately north of the last is a stone, .20 m. high, which may be a packing stone. Two stones of the north side of the gallery remain. That at the west is a split boulder .90 m. high, set with its flat face inwards. The second stone is .55 m. high. The opposite side of the gallery is represented by three stones, 1.00 m., .65 m. and .85 m. high respectively, from west to east.

The outer-wall north of the gallery consists of four stones set end to end. Their heights from west to east respectively are: 1.45 m., 1.35 m., 1.60 m. and 1.50 m. Four stones, in line, south of the gallery, are certainly part of the outer-wall. The heights of these from west to east respectively are: 1.95 m., 1.85 m., 1.45 m. and 2.00 m. At the east end of this line is a low, partly concealed stone (hatched on plan) which may be the butt of another stone of the outer-wall. It is at least .55 m. long and is .40 m. high. A large prostrate stone, 2.25 m. in maximum dimension, at the opposite (western) end of the line may be displaced from the outer-wall. 2.50 m. north of this is another prostrate stone, 1.45 m. in maximum dimension, of unknown function.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, p. 114, under Tirawley 5 and 6 and lines 33-39 and p. 115, lines 2-9.
Beaufort: *T.R.I.A.*, XV (1828), Polite Literature, 121 (Drg.).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 205.

Rhys: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 233.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site M.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285-286 (Excursion).

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 183-184.

36. Carbad More. O.S. 15: 9: 4 (0.4 cm., 20.8 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 50-100. G 181 326. Fig. 30. Plate 14.

Court Cairn

This is the most southerly of the group of megalithic monuments which lie on either side of the road leading to Lackan Bay. The tomb stands in a pasture field about 150 yards west of the road. The land rises gently to the west and north-west and falls gradually to the south towards the estuary of the Cloonaghmore or Palmerstown River.

1. de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site L.

The land in the area provides good grazing and some tillage is undertaken. Much of the lower ground in the vicinity is poorly drained and comparatively wet.

The monument is a rather well-preserved example of the dual-court cairn type. The main axis runs approximately NE-SW. At either end of the monument are the remains of two nearly circular courts each leading to its own segmented gallery. There is a gap of about 3.50 m. between the two galleries. No trace of structure is visible here and it seems most unlikely that the galleries were connected. The entire structure is about 37 m. long and about 10.00 m. in width. Little trace of cairn exists.

South-western Court and Gallery

The court here is about 8.00 m. in diameter. Ten stones of the perimeter remain in situ. Nine of these form the inner half of the circle. Two well-matched stones in the centre, 1.00 m. high (north-western) and .90 m. high (south-eastern), act as jambs giving access to the gallery. Flanking these are two prominent stones, 1.40 m. and 1.20 m. respectively. The remainder of the nine stones average .70 m. in height and do not appear to be graded. One other stone of the court perimeter remains certainly in situ. It is a very prominent stone, 1.50 m. high, opposite the gallery entrance. It probably formed one side of the court entrance. About 1.00 m. distant from it to the north-west lies a large prostrate flag, about .80 m. thick, which may be a fallen court-stone. South-east of the great entrance stone an irregular row of several apparently displaced blocks may be disturbed courtstones or may indicate the presence of a straight facade. The probable line of the perimeter of the court is indicated in the north-west segment by a low but definite banking about .35 m. high.

The entrance to the gallery between the jambs described above is .50 m. wide. The first chamber is 2.70 m. long and 1.90 m. broad. The north-west side is complete. A stone or stones are missing on the south-east. The chamber is partially filled and the sidestones protrude only about .40 m. above the fill. The entrance jambs rise about .50 m. above the level of the top of the chamber sides. The excellently matched segmenting jambs between the first and second chamber rise likewise higher than the gallery sides. The entry between these, to the second chamber, is .70 m. wide. This chamber is 2.25 m. wide and was probably about 3.40 m. long. The side walls appear to be complete. The tops of the stones in this chamber do not rise as high as those of the first chamber. However, they are about .50 m. above the present ground level which is lower than that of the first chamber. The end of the chamber is open at present but the inturning of the stone at the end of the south-eastern side of the gallery suggests that the gallery terminated there. The height of the gallery sides in relation to the jambs suggests that corbelling was probable and indeed the side-walling is well suited to take corbels. One flat slab, 1.70 m. in maximum dimension, lying on the banking about .70 m. outside the north-west wall of the first chamber, may be a slipped corbel.

North-eastern Court and Gallery

The structure at the north-east end of the monument is almost precisely similar in design to that at the south-west. The diameter of the approximately circular court was apparently about 7.50 m. Nine stones, including the gallery entrance jambs, are in position. The well-matched entrance jambs are .90 m. high (south-eastern) and .80 m. high (north-western). The rest of the stones average nearly 1.00 m. in height. Outside the court to the south-east are several blocks, a few of which may represent part of a kerb.

The entrance to the gallery is .70 m. wide. The entry jambs are .80 m. (north-western) and .90 m. (south-eastern) high. A block, about 1.00 m. in maximum dimension, lies between these jambs but it is doubtful if it is original. This gallery is partly filled and the sidestones, which are approximately of equal height, rise no more than .40 m. above the fill. The entrance jambs are about .50 m. higher than the gallery sides. The front chamber is well preserved. It is 2.00 m. long and 2.50 m. broad. The segmenting jambs, each about .80 m. high, rise about .25 m. above the gallery sides. The gap between them is about .70 m. The second chamber structure is incomplete and its south-west end is open. It is about 2.40 m. wide. Its length is uncertain.

Outside the north-western sides of both galleries several stones, some well set, appear. These may have served to strengthen the chamber walling. Some of the stones are set at right angles to the gallery sides and could perhaps be a form of buttressing. However, excavation would be required to determine the structure here.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, p. 114, Tirawley No. 7 duplicated p. 114, lines 40-41 and p. 115, lines 15-19.

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 205, lines 24-26.

Rhys: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 233.

Morris: *P.B.N.H.P.S.*, Session 1931-1932, 27 (footnote).

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285 (Excursion).

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 171-172, Site N (Pl. Phs.). *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 96, (MA. 12). *O.S.L.*, 14/E.18, 184.

37. **Townplots West.** O.S. 15: 13: 5 (10.6 cm., 1.8 cm.). Not marked O.D. 100-200. G 191 306. Fig. 31. Plate 15.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument, which is situated on rolling pasture land about half a mile south of the main Killala-Ballycastle road, is best approached by a bohereen which runs north-west along the boundary between Killala Townland and Townplots West. Close to the tomb, towards the east, is a low hillock, crowned by a circular enclosure. To the south is another enclosure and near this is a round barrow. The land in the vicinity provides good pasture but some places are invaded by gorse.

The monument itself is heavily overgrown by gorse. It consists of a gallery, orientated roughly NW-SE. The east end of the gallery is open at present. It is 4.80 m. long and narrows from 1.95 m. wide at the west to 1.40 m. wide at the east.

The gallery sides each consist of four set stones. The heights of those of the northern side, from west to east respectively, are: .55 m., .40 m., .40 m. and .30 m. At the eastern end of this side is a shallow hole in the ground and in this is a stone, .75 m. high, which leans outwards and may be a displaced sidestone. The more westerly stone of the opposite side of the gallery is almost concealed. It is .25 m. high. The dimensions of the other sidestones from west to east respectively are: .40 m., .20 m. and .15 m. Continuing the line of this side to the east is a stone, .90 m. in maximum dimension, which may be a displaced sidestone.

Two set stones, one at either side of the gallery, may be outer-wall stones. That at the north is about 1.20 m. from the gallery side and is .55 m. high. The other, which is about .50 m. from the southern side of the gallery, is .50 m. high. About 1.50 m. west of the last is a displaced block .50 m. thick.

In its present condition the tomb cannot be classified with certainty but it is very probably a wedge-shaped gallery grave.

38. **Muingerroom South.** O.S. 18: 2: 3 (46.0 cm., 58.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. F 838 308. Fig. 19. Plate 15.

Court Cairn

The monument lies somewhat less than half a mile south of the Ballycastle-Belmullet road on the heather-grown slopes at the north end of Carrowmore Lake. The site commands an extensive outlook southwards across the lake to the Nephin Beg mountains and eastwards to Slieve Fyagh. The Knocknascollop ridge forms the skyline towards the south-west. The land on the hillside is peat-covered with some grassy areas and is used as rough pasture for sheep.

The tomb, which stands on a grass-grown patch of ground, is fairly well preserved. It is of the central-court type consisting of a small roughly circular court with a ruined gallery opening from it at the south-west and the scant remains of a second gallery opposite this at the north-east.

The court is well preserved except at the north-west where courtstones are missing or perhaps concealed beneath the surface. The rest of the court is delimited by some

sixteen closely set orthostats varying from .20 m. to .90 m. in height. The entrance to the court is at the south-east where a gap of .45 m. between two courtstones is approached by a short, narrow passage about 1.50 m. long and .80 m. wide. Two stones form the south side of the passage and the opposite side is represented by a single stone. The court is 4.20 m. long and when complete would seem to have been slightly less in width.

The entrance to the north-eastern gallery is between two jambs which also form part of the court perimeter. They are well-matched stones, both about .80 m. high, and are set .40 m. apart. Behind the more northerly jamb is a sidestone .20 m. high. Beside this is a second sidestone. It leans heavily inwards and only its top edge is visible. A single sidestone is in position at the opposite side, immediately behind the jamb. Only .10 m. of its height is exposed.

The entrance to the south-western gallery is also between two courtstones serving as jambs. They are set .50 m. apart. That at the north-west is .70 m. high and the other is .55 m. high. Lying in the court immediately in front of these is a prostrate stone 1.50 m. by .65 m. The gallery consists of two chambers. The front chamber is 2.10 m. long and 1.45 m. wide at the north-east. The north-west side is represented by two partly concealed stones. The more northern is .40 m. high and the other is .65 m. high. The opposite side of the chamber is indicated by one greatly concealed stone .15 m. high. One jamb of the division between the front and rear chambers survives at the north-west side. It is .20 m. high. The south-western portion only of the second chamber is present. It is closed by a gable-shaped backstone, .25 m. high, set outside the ends of the gallery sides. Single sidestones adjoin the backstone at either side of the gallery. That at the north-west is .20 m. high and the other is .40 m. high. The chamber is 2.00 m. long and 1.15 m. wide at the south-west. The overall length of the gallery is 4.40 m.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 137, (MA. 29).

39. **Tawnywaddyduff.** O.S. 20:16:3 (91.5 cm., 10.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. G 080 253. Fig. 7. Plate 16.

Court Cairn

The tomb lies some fifty yards north-east of a new forestry road in a wide expanse of bogland recently planted with trees. Northwards from the site rising ground restricts the outlook but towards the south there is a wide view across the boggy plains, with the ring of mountains from the Ox in Sligo to Nephin and the Nephin Beg range, forming the skyline. About 400 yards north-west of the tomb a gravel ridge—now deeply quarried on its southern side—rises sharply about 100 ft. above the general level of the ground around the tomb.

The tomb is almost completely enveloped in peat. No surface indications are discernible on the peat covering, and the only structure visible consists of a pair of jambs and two sidestones lining three sides of a roughly square hole, some 2.00 m. deep, below the surface of the bog. The fourth side consists of an irregular peat face across the northern end of the sidestones. The jambs are set .40 m. apart. The more easterly is .85 m. high and at least .60 m. long and .30 m. thick. The opposite jamb is 1.10 m. high, .35 m. thick and at least .95 m. long. The backs of both jambs are concealed and the outer ends of each run beyond the southern ends of the adjoining sidestones. The more easterly sidestone is 1.00 m. high and at least 1.15 m. long and .30 m. thick. Its northern end is concealed in the peat. It leans slightly inwards. The opposite sidestone is 1.00 m. high, 1.25 m. long and .30 m. thick. The backs of both stones are concealed. All four stones have excellent flat inner surfaces.

Between the jambs a small tunnel, scarcely .30 m. wide, runs for about .75 m. southwards under the peat cover at a level just below the top of the jambs. It is not possible, without excavation, to examine the few stones partly exposed within it. The flat under-surface of a slab sloping downwards away from the jambs is partially exposed in the top of this tunnel. It may be a corbel or roofstone. However, save that there is

clear indication of the continuation of structure—very probably chamber structure—south of the jambs no further observation is possible.

The exposed structure is sufficient to define the monument as a Court Cairn with the main axis of the gallery aligned roughly NNW-SSE but the direction in which the entrance lies cannot be decided. The exposed structure forms an excellently built chamber 1.60 m. wide. The present floor consists of peat-filling much of which may have accumulated since the chamber was opened.

Some 21.50 m. roughly SSW of the tomb two standing stones protrude above the surface of the bog. They are aligned roughly N-S and are set 1.10 m. apart. The more northerly is .50 m. high, .75 m. long and .30 m. thick. The second is 1.10 m. high, 1.00 m. long and .70 m. thick. Though a small hollow surrounds them they appear to be set at a considerably higher level than the orthostats of the tomb and cannot be taken as connected with it. Immediately south of them, towards the road, a depression in the bog seems to be due to quarrying, perhaps for gravel.

40. Belladoan. O.S. 21: 6: 2 (36.7 cm., 45.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. G 121 289. Fig. 32. Plate 16.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on gently rolling pasture land about 100 yards west of the by-road which runs in a north-easterly direction from the Crossmolina-Ballycastle road, to the old constabulary barracks at Farmhill. The lower ground in the vicinity is wet and rush-grown.

The monument is very ruined. It consists of a stony mound, roughly oval in shape, measuring 17.50 m. long (N-S) and 10.50 m. in greatest width (E-W). Its height varies from .25 m. towards the west to 1.50 m. at the north. A low platform beyond the mound at the east is probably the result of cultivation.

Seven stones (hatched on plan) appear to be in situ but form no recognizable arrangement. Three of these, set close together near the centre of the mound, might represent a gallery side but this is quite uncertain. Their heights from north to south respectively are: .45 m., .45 m. and 1.00 m. About 2.00 m. south-east of these is another set stone .55 m. high, and 1.00 m. south of this is a fifth set stone 1.00 m. high. A sixth, .40 m. high, stands 3.00 m. to the north-west. The seventh stone, which is .30 m. high, is near the north-west edge of the mound.

The group of stones at the north end of the mound are much concealed and none are certainly in situ. They vary from .10 m. to .30 m. in exposed height. Near the east edge of the mound is a line of four low stones, which may be in situ. Three boulders, averaging 1.20 m. in maximum dimension, lie at the south end of the mound.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 182.

41. Doonanarrou Upper. O.S. 21: 6: 5 (32.0 cm., 33.4 cm.). "Cromlechs (Site of)" (applies also to nearby site). O.D. 100-200. G 116 277. Fig. 33. Plate 16.

Unclassified

The two monuments in Doonanarrou Upper Townland stand in a pasture field about a quarter mile west of the Crossmolina-Ballycastle road. The ground slopes down gently from the sites to a stream which skirts the northern edge of the field. There is an extensive outlook southwards, to the Ox Mountains towards the east and to Nephin and the Nephin Beg range at the south-west. The upper slopes of Seefin Hill are visible towards the north-east. The land in the vicinity of the sites is mostly rolling pasture land but some areas are tilled.

This, the more northerly of the two monuments, is very ruined. It consists mainly of a line of five stones orientated NW-SE. The stone at the south-east end of the line

leans heavily to the south. If erect it would be about 1.20 m. high. The other four stones are erect. Their heights from south-east to north-west respectively are: 1.20 m., .65 m., .55 m. and .60 m.. .80 m. east of the last is a stone which has collapsed to the north-west. If erect it would be about 1.00 m. high. About 3.20 m. east of the middle stone of the line of upright stones is a displaced block 1.65 m. in maximum dimension. Beyond this is a stone of unknown function, which leans heavily to the east. If erect it would be .65 m. high. There are slight traces of a mound at the north-east of the structure.

The monument is probably a megalithic tomb but the remains are insufficient to permit classification. The line of erect stones may represent the side of a gallery or outer-wall and the collapsed stone at the north-east may be a backstone.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 182.

42. **Doonanarroo Upper.** O.S. 21: 6: 5 (31.3 cm., 32.9 cm.). "Cromlechs (Site of)." (applies also to nearby site). O.D. 100-200. G 115 276. Fig. 33. Plate 16.

Unclassified

This, the more southerly of the two monuments in the townland, stands close to the field fence about fifty yards south-west of Ma. 41. The monument is very ruined. It consists of several orthostats and a number of loose and displaced stones all of which are incorporated in a mound of irregular outline. The mound is about 14.00 m. long east-west and about 12.00 m. wide at the west. The outline of the mound is probably the result of cultivation and the fence and ditch at the west may have caused further interference.

The more southerly of the erect stones is .30 m. high. About 1.00 m. north of this is a very fine stone, .85 m. high, with a gabled top. Some 2.00 m. further to the north is another set stone .80 m. high. Beyond this, at the edge of the mound, is a set stone .95 m. high. Between the last two stones the surface of a stone, .55 m. by .50 m., is exposed. There are two more stones towards the east end of the mound which appear to be in situ. The more westerly is .35 m. high and the other is .70 m. high. South of the last is a prostrate stone, .45 m. thick, and to the north the edge of a collapsed stone, 1.10 m. in maximum dimension, is exposed. At the south-west end of the mound is a block, 1.30 m. in maximum dimension, which does not appear to be in situ. .70 m. north-west of the gable-shaped stone described above is a loose stone and another lies 2.50 m. east of this.

The tomb cannot be classified but the gabled stone is closely similar to the type of backstone found in many court cairns.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 182.

43. **Tawnywaddyduff.** O.S. 21: 13: 1 (6.5 cm., 15.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. G 080 253. Fig. 34. Plate 17.

Court Cairn

The tomb is inconspicuously sited low down on the northern side of a little valley in a wide expanse of bogland recently planted with trees. Westwards the ground rises for about 400 yards to the head of the valley where a conspicuous standing stone, about 1.75 m. high, overlooks the site. The view from the tomb is restricted by the ridges to a few hundred yards save down the valley towards the south-east. Here the valley opens on to broad flattish boglands and beyond the Ox Mountains are visible in the distance. In this direction also, about three-quarters of a mile from the tomb, a few farms stand on a low ridge of grassland and arable which rises above the bog. A new forestry road curves sharply southwards near a sand-quarry a few hundred yards south-east of the monument.

The tomb, though roofless, is well preserved. It consists of a gallery orientated roughly NE-SW, divided by jambs into two chambers and opening from a small court of full-court design. Considerable remains of cairn surround the structure. The gallery contains a great deal of fill and some large stones. The cairn surface is very uneven but it rises to an average height of about 1.00 m. above the surrounding ground.

The entrance to the gallery is through a gap, .40 m. wide, between two well-matched jambs. The more northerly of these is .70 m. high and the other measures .60 m. high. Five courtstones, .30 m. to .40 m. in height, flank the southern entry jamb. The opposite arm of the court consists of six stones. Here the courtstone furthest from the gallery entrance measures .60 m. in height and leans slightly southwards. It is the most prominent courtstone present and probably marks the entrance to the court (cf. Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 16)). The other courtstones on the northern side range from .20 m. to .35 m. in height. Immediately north-east of the prominent courtstone described above is a well-set block, .50 m. high, which may also form part of the court entry. It may well represent a short entry passage analogous to the arrangement found in several other sites (e.g., Ballybeg (Ma. 31)). The court measures 3.75 m. broad and some 2.75 m. long.

The first chamber is 2.00 m. long and 1.50 m. wide. The more easterly of the two sidestones on the northern side is .60 m. high and the other measures .30 m. high. Both are placed with their flat surfaces inwards. Partly overlying the more westerly of the two is a loose slab, 1.00 m. by .90 m. and .40 m. thick, which may well be a corbel, probably somewhat displaced. The sidestones of the more southerly side of the chamber are each .20 m. high. The eastern portion of that nearest the entrance is concealed in the heather-covered peaty soil.

The well-matched segmenting jambs are erect and are set .55 m. apart. The more northerly is .50 m. high and the other is .45 m. high. Their flat surfaces face towards the entrance. The second chamber is 2.30 m. long and 1.60 m. wide and narrows slightly towards the backstone. Two sidestones are visible on the northern side. The more easterly of these is a heavy boulder rising .25 m. above the surface. Its northern edge is concealed. The other sidestone placed with a flat surface inwards is .30 m. high. The more easterly of the three sidestones forming the southern side of this chamber is a very massive block .70 m. high. The next sidestone measures .50 m. high and the third, adjoining the backstone, is .30 m. high. All three are placed with excellent flat surfaces inwards. The backstone is .55 m. high. It also has a flat inner surface and its top is bevelled sharply outwards.

The cairn appears as a rough rectangle about 15.00 m. long by 10.00 m. wide. It seems to narrow slightly from east to west. Near its edge many heavy stones and hummocks in the heather-covered ground, superficially at least, suggest a straight kerbing along the sides and across the rear. However, in the uneven ground it is impossible to determine which of these stones, if any, really belong to a kerb and many may well be merely heavy cairn stones. The few blocks across the rear of the tomb are among the least convincing and it is not clear where the cairn originally ended. To show on the plan the large number of ill-exposed and doubtful stones and the hummocks which probably conceal others would yield no intelligible result. With one exception those only at the eastern end are drawn. Of these only the large block 2.50 m. north of the central stone of the northern arm of the court can reliably be taken as a kerb stone. It measures .75 m. by .45 m. and is .45 m. high. A second stone, the side of which is exposed near the cairn edge 3.00 m. south of the southern arm of the court, is also fairly convincing as a kerb stone. It is .35 m. high. The stone set 1.25 m. south of the western end of the gallery is .35 m. high. It closely resembles the gallery orthostats and is placed with its flat surface towards the tomb. Its function, if it is a true structural orthostat, is uncertain. If it is a kerb stone a distinct narrowing of the cairn towards the rear is indicated.

A small recent cutting about 1.00 m. deep has exposed a section through the cairn at the south-west corner. The lower .40 m. consists of clay, apparently the natural soil of the mountain. This is apparently directly overlain by the cairn. The peat cover near the tomb is not deep and the trenches of the sods turned by forestry ploughs show a considerable mixture of sandy soil.

44. **Bangor.** O.S. 26: 3: 6 (68.4 cm., 48.1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100 200. F 861 233. Fig. 35. Plate 17.

Unclassified

The monument is situated close to the village of Bangor about 100 yards north of the road from Bangor to Belmullet. It stands at the mouth of the long valley of the Owenmore River at the western edge of the great mountain chain extending from Maumakeogh towards the north-east to Corraun Hill at the south. Towards the south-west, across a vast expanse of desolate bog the mountains of Achill Island are visible. The tomb stands in a sloping pasture field on a fertile ridge between Carrafull Hill and the Owenmore River.

The monument is very ruined. It consists of several set, and some prostrate, stones incorporated in a roughly oval-shaped mound about 1.00 m. high. The outline of the mound is probably the result of cultivation. It is about 13.50 m. long north-south and 7.50 m. wide east-west at the middle.

Three set stones standing in line may be the remains of a gallery side. The heights of these, from north to south respectively are: .40 m., .55 m., and .50 m. North-west of these are two set stones, each about .65 m. high, of uncertain function. South of these is a displaced stone 1.10 m. in maximum dimension. Towards the southern end of the mound is a very large stone, .80 m. high, which may be a backstone. However, it leans very heavily to the south and is not certainly in situ. Under this, at the east, is a partly concealed stone .65 m. in maximum dimension. Near the south edge of the mound are three prostrate stones of unknown function. A group of three small stones towards the north of the mound seems set in the ground but their function is not clear. They may be cairn stones. A prostrate stone, .55 m. in maximum dimension, lies 1.20 m. west of these.

45. **Tristia.** O.S. 26: 5: 1 (1.9 cm., 42.3 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. F 789 323. Fig. 36. Plate 17.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated in a sloping pasture field, on a long low ridge about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile north of the summit of Tristia Hill. The land on the ridge is under pasture and tillage but the lower ground in the vicinity and the slopes of Tristia Hill are boggy mountain land which, however, provides rough grazing. The site commands an extensive view westwards across low flat land to the sand-dunes at Blacksod Bay and beyond to the Mullet peninsula.

The tomb stands in the angle formed by the junction of two fences. It has been badly damaged but its principal features are clear. The main long axis runs E-W. At the east are the remains of a court, leading to a gallery at least 8.00 m. long. The gallery is divided by a pair of jambs set 2.50 m. from the entrance. A side-chamber opens from the south side of the gallery, west of the segmentation, and there is some evidence for another side-chamber opposite it at the north. The front portion of the gallery is covered by a broken and partially displaced roofstone. Some low mound is present around the structure but the ground beyond the fences has been cleared and the original extent of the cairn cannot be ascertained from surface indications. A low "step" about 3.00 m. north of the tomb is probably due to cultivation. The east end of the monument is marked by a low curved ridge, about 2.00 m. wide.

Five court orthostats form a short arc in front of the entrance to the gallery. Three of these are at the north and two at the south. That nearest the entrance at the south is .65 m. high and the stone adjoining it is .60 m. high. Beside the second stone and embedded in the fence is a stone, .15 m. high, which may also be a courtstone but this is uncertain. The courtstone immediately north of the entrance is .60 m. high and the stone beside this is .55 m. high. The third stone, which is partly concealed, is .25 m. high. Beyond the court orthostats the curved ridge, mentioned above, may indicate the line of a full court. Some small stones are exposed along this ridge which is only

about .20 m. high. Within the area enclosed are two displaced stones both .75 m. in maximum dimension.

The entrance to the gallery is between two jambs, set longitudinally. The east ends of these form part of the court perimeter. Both stones lean inwards. That at the north is .60 m. high and the other is .75 m. high. Single sidestones remain in situ at either side of the front chamber. The northern sidestone leans inwards. If erect it would be .50 m. high. The sidestone at the south is .60 m. high. The roofstone covering this chamber seems to have been split by fire. It is 2.60 m. long (E-W), 1.70 m. wide (N-S) and .20 m. thick. It does not rest directly on the gallery sides. At the south it lies on a stone, .70 m. by .40 m. and .25 m. thick, resting above the sidestone and at the north it rests on a stone, .50 m. by .30 m. and .25 m. thick, which lies above the northern jamb. A fragment, 1.00 m. by .70 m. and .20 m. thick, lying in front of the gallery entrance may have been broken from the roofstone. The segmenting jambs are also set longitudinally but are at an angle to the long axis of the gallery. The gap between them is .60 m. wide at the east. The northern jamb is .50 m. high and the southern .35 m. high.

The extent of the gallery westwards from the segmenting jambs is not clear. At the south three sidestones are in position. The more easterly which is .40 m. high is set outside the jamb and overlaps it for a distance of .30 m. Close to it at the east is a split-boulder type stone, .35 m. high, of uncertain function. A gap of .50 m. between the first sidestone and the next sidestone, to the west, gives access to a ruined side-chamber. The second sidestone is .40 m. high and the third is .55 m. high.

The east and west sides of the side-chamber on the southern side are each represented by a single stone. The stone at the west is erect and is .35 m. high. The opposite stone has collapsed inwards. It would seem to have been about .70 m. high when erect. Above it lies a stone, 1.60 m. by 1.20 m. and .25 m. thick, which may have covered the chamber. The south end is open at present. This chamber would seem to have been at least 1.50 m. long (N-S) and about 1.50 m. wide (E-W).

The north side of the gallery, west of the segmenting jambs, is very ruined and the design here is not clear. One small sidestone, .30 m. high, stands .35 m. west of the northern segmenting jamb. 1.35 m. north of this an erect stone, .35 m. high, may represent the north end of a side-chamber. Two stones, set in line, about 2.50 m. west of the small sidestone, seem to be part of the gallery side. The more easterly is .40 m. high and the other is .20 m. high.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 137, (MA. 30).

46. Shanvodinnaun. O.S. 28: 2: 5 (38.1 cm., 49.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. G 024 231. Fig. 34. Plate 17.

Court Cairn

The tomb stands on the side of a prominent ridge in rolling bogland about two miles south-west of the hamlet of Doobehy. Save for a few widely separated small areas of grassland and arable on isolated esker hills the whole district, including the ridge on which the site lies, is covered in heathy bog. The tomb is about sixty yards south-west of the top of the ridge and some twenty feet lower than the crest. The top of the ridge commands a very extensive view on all sides across the bog-lands and plains to the great arc of mountains from Benbulbin along the Ox, Nephin and Nephin Beg ranges to Slieve Fyagh and northwards to the mountains along the north coast of Mayo from Belderg to Killala Bay. However, from the site itself the rising ground of the ridge restricts the outlook on the south-west to less than 100 yards.

The tomb is poorly preserved. A row of four orthostats evidently represent the more northern side of a gallery aligned roughly WSW-ENE. These four are the only orthostats certainly in situ. Two other firmly embedded stones are situated 2.00 m. to 2.50 m. north of the row. The remaining five large blocks are prostrate.

The more easterly stone of the row is .50 m. high, the next 1.00 m. high and the third .80 m. high. These three stones are erect and placed with their straight surfaces facing southwards. Between the more easterly of them and the next is a firmly em-

bedded stone, .45 m. high, acting as a filler. A gap between the edges of the second and third orthostats is packed with a few small stones which may be original. The fourth stone of the row is 1.70 m. high. It leans very slightly southwards. It protrudes to a maximum of .40 m. southwards of the line formed by the southern surfaces of the three other stones and is obviously a jamb stone.

Two heavy prostrate slabs immediately adjoin the western side of the jamb. The more southerly of these measures 1.30 m. by 1.00 m. and is .35 m. thick. The other is 1.60 m. by .70 m. and .60 m. thick. Close to these at the south and west are two loose prostrate stones measuring 1.00 m. by .40 m. by .25 m., and .60 m. by .50 m. by .10 m., respectively.

The more westerly of the two set stones about 2.00 m. north of the row stands erect and is 1.00 m. high. It appears to be set at a somewhat higher level than the stones in the row and, though a fine block, is not necessarily in situ. If it is a structural stone its function is not clear. The other stone, .75 m. to the north-east of it, is firmly embedded but protrudes only .30 m. above the surface and is quite probably not structural. West of these stones is a prostrate slab 1.50 m. long, .80 m. wide and .40 m. thick.

Along the southern side of the row of orthostats a hollow about .20 m. deep probably represents the position of the gallery. Some remains of surrounding cairn are present but on the western side the rough surface and the rising ground make definition of the edge impossible. Elsewhere the edge is not sharp and probably gives little indication of the original cairn design.

The row of four stones can be accepted with a high degree of probability as belonging to the more northerly side of a Court Cairn gallery. The placing of the flat surfaces of the sidestones inwards and the outward slope of the top surfaces which would facilitate corbelling are both typical features of that class. The tall jamb could equally well belong to a segmentation or entry—hence the orientation remains in doubt.

47. **Eskeragh.** O.S. 28: 15: 3 (63.0 cm., 8.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300.
G 049 188. Fig. 37. Plate 18.

Court Cairn

The monument lies about 150 yards west of Eskeragh School and some 300 yards north of the Crossmolina-Bangor road. It stands on a low gravel ridge surrounded by vast stretches of bog. The land on the ridge is mostly under pasture but a little tillage is undertaken. The site commands an extensive outlook southwards across flat boglands to Nephin and the Nephin Beg mountains.

The tomb is very ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery orientated roughly NW-SE. The gallery is 4.60 m. long and seems to have been about 1.75 m. wide. Low indefinite traces of a mound extend for a distance of about 5.00 m. north-west of the backstone. Some small stones in front of the gallery are probably exposed cairn stones.

The entrance to the gallery is at the south-east and is marked by two fine jambs set .40 m. apart. The south-western jamb is .80 m. high, and the opposite jamb is 1.00 m. high. Adjoining the last is a stone, .50 m. high, which seems to be a courtstone. .50 m. north-east of this a stone, .35 m. high, may also be a courtstone but this is not certain.

The south-western side of the gallery is represented by two stones. That nearest the entrance is .60 m. high and the other is .50 m. high. Only one stone of the opposite side of the gallery survives. It stands immediately behind the entrance jamb and is .75 m. high. The top edges of the three surviving sidestones slope downwards on the outside. A much concealed stone, .50 m. high, at the north-west, marks that end of the gallery.

48. **Ballyholan.** O.S. 30: 12: 6 (84.6 cm., 18.0 cm.). O.D. 100. Shown as rock outcrop.
G 267 194. Fig. 37. Plate 18.

Court Cairn

The monument stands in the corner of a small field at the base of a low hill about one mile ENE of Ballina. The land in the vicinity is rolling pasture land but a little

tillage is undertaken. There are many low hills and ridges in the area and rock outcrops in places. Gorse grows on neglected ground. Nephin and the Nephin Beg mountains are visible towards the south-west. The field in which the tomb stands is known locally as the "Cloghabracka field."¹

The monument is very ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery, orientated E-W, and east of this is a disordered mass of stones among which several court orthostats can be recognized. Some low mound is present around the structure, particularly at the south, but here the outline is probably the result of cultivation.

The northern side of the gallery is well preserved. It consists of four stones of split-boulder type set with their flat sides facing inwards. The heights of these from east to west respectively are: .35 m., .50 m., .50 m. and .80 m. At the east end of this line of stones is a large courtstone .90 m. high. Next to it, to the east, a much concealed stone, protruding .25 m. from the ground, possibly indicates a continuation of this arm of the court. About 1.00 m. south of this is a large prostrate block .80 m. thick. A group of six partly concealed stones lie 1.50 m. east of the last. None of these can be regarded as being certainly in situ.

The south side of the gallery is destroyed. A stone at the east, .85 m. high, is probably an entrance jamb. Immediately west of this a stone, 1.10 m. by .85 m. by .40 m., may be a sidestone collapsed inwards. A prostrate stone lying within the gallery area 1.00 m. further to the west is of unknown function. It is 1.20 m. by .85 m. by .30 m.

A very large stone, 1.50 m. long, .65 m. thick and 1.50 m. high, stands at the west end of the north side of the gallery. It may be the backstone of the gallery but it is not certainly in situ. Within the gallery and 2.50 m. west of this stone a low set stone (hatched on plan) is probably the top of a segmenting jamb. The exposed portion is .60 m. by .50 m. and .20 m. high.

Two courtstones stand immediately south of the orthostat at the south of the gallery entrance. Both are about .95 m. high. There is a further courtstone 1.30 m. to the south-east. It is 1.50 m. high. This stone is surrounded by a large group of stones. Some of these are loose but most are firmly embedded. Several of the larger stones, .40 m. to .50 m. high, may be courtstones but it is not possible here to distinguish with certainty between structural stones and cairn stones.

The tomb is certainly a Court Cairn. The gallery, which at present is about 5.00 m. long, may have been of two chambers. The extent of court closure is not clear.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 96, (MA. 13), (Pl.).

49. **Ballina.** O.S. 30: 15: 5 (56.8 cm., 6.1 cm.). "Cromlech (Cloghogle)." O.D. 50-100. G 238 182. Fig. 38. Plate 18.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on a low hill about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile west of the River Moy. It lies about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south-west of Ballina railway station immediately east of the old road called Cockle Street. The site, which overlooks the Moy, commands extensive views across rolling pasture land.

The tomb is ruined and the remains are insufficient to permit classification. It consists of the north end of a chamber or gallery orientated approximately N-S. Two side-stones, and a backstone at the north, remain in position. These are covered by a single roofstone. Some 3.50 m. to the south is a loose block .80 m. thick. The structure stands in a depression about 5.00 m. in diameter and about .50 m. deep, which seems to have been caused by cattle. Around the tomb are some faint traces of a mound of indeterminate shape and extent.

The western sidestone is .75 m. high and the eastern .90 m. high. The backstone, which leans to the south, is 1.10 m. high. The roofstone rests on the two sidestones, and

1. This site is mentioned in an Ordnance Survey Hill Drawing Name Book (1840).

at one point, on the backstone. It is .60 m. thick. Several small, low stones, perhaps packing stones, are exposed around the structure.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 117-118, Tirawley No. 25 (Drg.).

J.R.S.A.I., XVI (1883-1884), 221, (Schedule for Ireland, Ancient Monuments Protection Act).

Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887), 296-297 (Drg.). Reprinted in *R.S.A.I., Extra Volume for 1888-1889*, 234-235.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 284-285 (Drg.), (Excursion).

J.R.S.A.I., XXIX (1899), 62 (Photographic Collection).

McParlan: *Statistical Survey of the County of Mayo* (Dublin, 1802), 153.

Ferguson: *Rude Stone Monuments* (London, 1872), 233 (Pl.).

Stokes: *Revue Archéologique* (1882), p. 16.

O.S.L. 14/E.18, 56, 74, 79-81, 87-88.

50. **Carrowleagh.** O.S. 31: 4: 4 (71.8 cm., 47.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. G 352 223. Fig. 44. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated on the boggy table-lands between the Ox Mountains and the Ballina lowlands. From the site, towards the east and south, there is an extensive view across the bogs to the Ox Mountains and to the west, beyond the lowlands, the great massif of the west Mayo mountains forms the skyline. There is some rough grazing on the bogs, which have been opened up in recent years for turf-cutting operations and towards the south there are some patches of cultivation in the valleys of the small rivers which flow down the mountains to the River Moy.

The tomb which stands in a small shallow hollow in the bog, is well preserved. It consists of a gallery, orientated approximately NE-SW, surrounded by a U-shaped outer-wall. The gallery is divided into a short portico, at the west, separated from the long main chamber by a transverse stone which reaches the height of the chamber sides. Two roofstones cover the greater part of the chamber. A considerable amount of cairn material is present between the outer-wall and the gallery.

The portico is 1.10 m. wide and 1.00 m. long. The sides consist of single well-matched stones. That at the north leans outwards. If erect it would be about .60 m. high. The opposite stone is .80 m. high. Within the portico is a displaced and partly concealed stone of unknown function. The segmenting stone, between the portico and the gallery proper, is a fine slab 1.05 m. high.

The main chamber is 4.70 m. long. The sides are of somewhat irregular construction but the average width is 1.20 m. The southern side of the chamber is almost complete and consists of six stones varying from .50 m. to .85 m. in height. Two prostrate stones, lying in a gap of .60 m. between the chamber side and the backstone, are greatly concealed. They may have formed part of the gallery wall. The opposite side of the chamber is also somewhat damaged. The first two stones, at the west, are each .65 m. high. Next to these is a stone, .60 m. high, which leans inwards and is loosely set in the ground. It is probably a displaced sidestone. The two stones beyond this are .45 m. and .55 m. high respectively. There is a gap of .60 m. between the last and the remaining two sidestones. These are .15 m. and .45 m. high respectively. Above them is a stone, .70 m. by .50 m. and .20 m. thick, and on top of this is a small stone, .25 m. by .20 m. and .10 m. thick, which supports the roofstone covering that end of the gallery. The east end of the gallery is closed by a single, partly concealed stone, .60 m. high. It leans slightly inwards.

The roofstone at the west is 2.40 m. by 1.90 m. and is about .35 m. thick. It rests directly on the gallery sides but it may be somewhat out of its original position. The second roofstone rests on the small stone mentioned above and on single sidestones at either end of the chamber. It too seems to be a little displaced. It is 1.40 m. by 2.15 m. and varies from .20 m. to .80 m. in thickness.

The outer-wall consists of some twenty stones which vary from .25 m. to .85 m. in height. The average height is about .50 m. The outer-wall is set at a distance of about 1.00 m. from the side-walls of the gallery but at the east comes closer and at the back-

stone the distance decreases to .50 m. There may have been a more or less straight facade at the west end of the tomb. A fine erect stone, .55 m. high, set transversely to the long axis of the gallery stands at the north-western corner of the monument. South of this is a very small and almost concealed stone (shown by pecks on plan) which may indicate the line of the facade. A stone, 1.00 m. high, set inside the line of the outer-wall at the south-east corner of the tomb leans heavily to the south. Its function is not clear. Beside it to the north-west are two stones, each about .75 m. in maximum dimension, which are loose.

51. Carrowleagh. O.S. 31: 8: 5 (79.3 cm., 34.9 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500. G 360 210. Figs. 41, 42 and 43. Plate 19.

Court Cairn

The tomb lies about one mile south-east of Ma. 50, on the plateau fringing the north-western flank of the Ox Mountains. The site commands a wide view across north-east Mayo from Pontoon to Downpatrick Head. The Owencam River, which flows westwards to join the tributaries of the Moy, runs about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of the monument. The surrounding area is all bogland though arable patches occur in the valleys upwards of a mile from the site.

The tomb is very well preserved. It was exposed in recent years when the bog was opened up for turf cutting but is still largely embedded in the peat. It consists of a fine gallery orientated roughly E-W. A large part of the roof is intact and the gallery is still largely enveloped in the cairn. The gallery had apparently been cleared to a greater depth than the present level and the floor was locally reported to have been paved. The cairn appears as a protuberance in the bog. Though stones are exposed in many places, fern and the rough surface of the peat tend to obscure the exact outline. The cairn, as traceable above the bog, is 23.00 m. long and 12.50 m. broad. It appears to narrow towards the east end. Disturbance, however, is evident here and a depression crosses the outline of the cairn some 6.00 m. from the eastern end.

The gallery structure consists of orthostatic side-walls overlapped by heavy corbels in several irregular tiers capped with massive roofstones. On the northern side four orthostats are exposed and three are visible on the southern side. They are all split boulders set with the flat surface inwards. All are erect and between .50 m. and .65 m. above the ground level of the inner part of the chamber. The backstone is exposed to a height of .75 m. It leans inwards. The corbelling along the sides consists of large split-boulders and slabs with smaller pieces jammed between them. They are steeply pitched and are embedded in the cairn outside the chamber. Two great roof stones are in position. The western one rests on a small stone, .40 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. thick, above the backstone and on the corbelling over each side of the gallery. The second roofstone rests on the first and on the corbels, amounting to three tiers, over either side. Some of the smaller filling stones between the roof and the corbels are split and crushed. The under surface of the south-west corner of the more westerly roofstone curves upwards and a corbel stone is fitted into the hollow. This roofstone is .50 m. thick, at least 2.00 m. wide (N-S) and 1.70 m. long (E-W). The other is at least .35 m. thick, 2.60 m. wide (N-S) and 1.70 m. long (E-W). In both cases only the flat under surfaces and outer edges are visible. The tops are almost entirely covered in cairn and peat. The arrangement of the roofstones reduces the height of the gallery towards the backstone.

East of the roofstones the ground level rises to a height of .75 m. to 1.50 m. above the level in the inner part of the chamber and further orthostats are probably concealed here. Corbels in several tiers are exposed on either side and the gallery structure certainly extends more than 2.50 m. beyond the outer edge of the eastern roofstone. No segmenting jambs appear. A stone runs transversely across the gallery 3.70 m. from the backstone. Its ends and outer face are concealed. It is .40 m. high and at least 1.00 m. long. If original it might be a sill stone.

East of the exposed gallery structure several stones appear above the surface. Just 6.50 m. east of the backstone and immediately south of the line of the main long

axis of the gallery a much concealed stone, .35 m. long, rises .35 m. above the surface. This may not be in situ though its position might suggest an entry jamb. About .80 m. east of this the edge of a stone, .30 m. thick and .55 m. wide, appears above the surface. This stone extends at least 1.50 m. (N-S) and may possibly be a displaced lintel or roofstone. Directly in front of the open end of the gallery and 9.00 m. from the backstone is a well set stone .55 m. long, .20 m. thick and .40 m. high. It may not be in situ and its function remains uncertain. Four metres further to the south-east a fine stone, .85 m. long, .25 m. thick and .85 m. high, is exposed in a hollow about .50 m. deep. It is a split boulder set with its flat face towards the gallery. It could well be a courtstone. A loose almost prostrate stone, .90 m. by .70 m., lies .60 m. west of it.

The tomb may be classified as a Court Cairn with certainty. The chamber structure as far as it is exposed compares closely with Sralagagh (Ma. 10) and Behy (Ma. 3). A long cairn is clearly present. The absence of definite evidence for jambs, either entry or segmenting, may well be due to concealment while the high ground level in front would necessarily conceal any court structure present. The gallery is certainly over 5.00 m. long and is about 1.80 m. wide.

(Note—On the detailed plan of the gallery (Fig. 42) the lowest tier of corbels is shown by a full line. The tier above this is shown by pecked lines and the uppermost corbels by chain-dot.)

52. Carrowkilleen. O.S. 38: 1: 4 (3.0 cm., 51.1 cm.). Shown as rock outcrop. O.D. 200-300. G 083 168. Fig. 39. Plates 20, 21 and 22.

Court Cairn

The monument lies about 100 yards south of the main Crossmolina-Bangor Erris road about $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles west of Crossmolina. It is situated directly behind a fence around a farmhouse. The site is on a low ridge which rises about 100 feet above a vast expanse of bogland. The land on the ridge, part at least of which is reclaimed, provides pasture and some tillage. Considerable portions of the ridge are strewn with heavy boulders. Save for a little plantation of conifers around the farmhouse the district is treeless. Though the tomb is not on the highest point of the ridge it commands a very wide view of the great arc of mountains from the Ox Mountains towards the east to Nephin in the south and the Nephin Beg and Slieve Fyagh ranges to the south-west.

The site, the most extensive megalithic monument known in Mayo, is well preserved. The cairn remains extend 58.00 m. in length and some 18.00 m. in width and the long axis is orientated ESE-WNW. The cairn is composed of very heavy stones with smaller stones, some at least of which are field-stones, among them. Many of the cairn-stones, including quite large boulders, are water-rolled. The edges of the cairn are straight and though along the south side, especially towards the east, this edge has been sharpened apparently in comparatively recent times by the piling up of small field-stones, the general line probably roughly indicates the original edge. Beyond this edge on both sides, along the western half of the cairn, a low grass-covered bank extends for a few metres. This may well represent old spill from the cairn. The stony edge is shown by pecked lines on the plan and the grass-covered extensions are outlined in hachuring. Slight traces of spill, 3.00 m.-4.00 m. wide, occur elsewhere but are not sufficiently well defined for planning.

The monument consists of two main elements. A court and gallery at the eastern end and two galleries, arranged as a dual-court cairn, in the western part. It seems very likely that the dual-court cairn was overlaid across the rear of an original court cairn presumably of single court design. A definite line along the cairn, at the south, where the level steps up abruptly seems to indicate the line of the cairn structure belonging to the dual-court component. This line is indicated on the plan by chain-dot.

Eastern Structure

This consists of a court at the east leading to a long gallery, the whole aligned almost due E-W. This part of the monument has been considerably interfered with by

fences. A crooked fence enclosing the little plantation around the farmhouse runs close to the gallery and into the court area. A path follows the south side of the fence. It is possible that structure lies concealed in the fence but the low level of the path in relation to the cairn suggests considerable denudation in this sector. One stone in the fence—that nearest the entrance to the gallery—may well be a courtstone in situ but this cannot be decided without excavation. A second fence aligned roughly north and south runs across the court. The path passes through the gap, 1.25 m. wide, between the fences.

The southern arm only of the court, consisting of eleven stones, survives. The heights of the courtstones decline in general from the gallery entrance outwards. The courtstone at the entrance to the gallery is the highest being .75 m. high. The stone adjoining it is .45 m. high. The rest range in height from .20 m. to .35 m. save that two are embedded in the fence and protrude scarcely .10 m. and that the outermost stone is .10 m. in height. The eight stones nearest the entrance form an even curve. The next two do not continue this line but turn outwards suggesting a bottle-neck entry to the court. The outermost stone, though set erect, is further out of line and its exact function in the design of the court entry is uncertain. The court would seem to have been about 8.00 m. long (E-W). Its width cannot be determined but it would seem to have been of short oval shape with a bottle-neck entry.

Immediately west of the courtstone, at the gallery entrance, which itself functions as a jamb, is a second jamb stone .95 m. high. This is matched on the opposite side of the entrance by another jamb 1.00 m. in height. It appears then that the entry was defined by two pairs of jambs forming, as it were, a short ante-chamber. The eastern portion of the northern side of the gallery consists of a row of five stones very well aligned with flat surfaces facing inwards. From east to west these measure respectively, .90 m., .70 m., .50 m., .90 m. and .45 m. in height. Over the middle of this row is a slab corbel, 1.30 m. long, .90 m. broad and .30 m. thick, sloping at an angle of about 45°. Keyed outside the westernmost stone of the row just described is another sidestone .55 m. high. Two metres west of this and near the backstone is another sidestone .10 m. high. It leans slightly inwards and its inner surface is flat. Between these two sidestones are two embedded stones which seem to be corbels rather than sidestones. The more easterly is .50 m. high but the other protrudes only .05 m. The backstone is a fine split boulder, .75 m. high, set with the flat surface inwards.

On the southern side of the gallery a sidestone, .60 m. high, set with its flat surface inwards, stands close to the entry jambs. The next sidestone on this side is 1.75 m. further west. It is .40 m. high and is overlaid by a corbel slab, 1.40 m. long, at least .60 m. broad and .20 m. thick, lying at an angle of 45°. Between these two sidestones is another corbel, 1.20 m. by at least .60 m. and .35 m. thick. Some 3.50 m. from the entrance is a third sidestone .80 m. high. It is set with its flat surface inwards and is the tallest sidestone on this side of the gallery. West of this, at a distance of .60 m., is another sidestone, .30 m. high, likewise set with its flat surface inwards. Inside this is a small stone, .15 m. high, which could be a packing stone. In the gap of .75 m. between the sidestone last described and the next sidestone is a largely concealed corbel slab .75 m. by .45 m. and .20 m. thick. A row of three further sidestones partially overlaid by a corbel completes the northern side of the gallery. The more easterly of these is concealed by the rising ground and protrudes only .05 m. The other two are .25 m. and .30 m. high and have flat inner faces. The overlying corbel is .95 m. by .65 m. and .30 m. thick.

This gallery measures 9.00 m. long from the inner pair of entry jambs to the backstone. The change of alignment of the side-walls and the imbrication described above, clearly suggest segmentation about midway along the gallery. The tall stone on the south, 3.50 m. from the entrance, if not actually itself a jamb, likewise suggests a segmentation. Whether this was marked by separate jambs not now visible or whether imbricating sidestones functioned as jambs is not clear. Comparison with the gallery in the next section of the monument suggests that the interlocking of the chamber sides to give a jamb-like effect rather than jambs clearly separate from the sidestones, is the more likely arrangement.

Western Structure—Eastern element of the Dual-Court Cairn

The eastern portion of the dual-court component of the monument consists of a well preserved oval-shaped court and a gallery aligned approximately E-W. Eight courtstones set in a fairly regular curve form the southern arm of the court and three further stones extending eastwards seem to represent a bottle-neck entry similar to that noted in the court of the eastern structure described above. The eight courtstones measure in height, from west to east respectively, .10 m., .35 m., .15 m., .40 m., .65 m., .80 m., .55 m. and .30 m. The first of the three stones extending eastwards is .40 m. high. The other two are .15 m. and .10 m. high respectively and are less certainly to be taken as structural stones in situ. Five courtstones of the northern arm of the court are present, measuring in order from west to east, .50 m., .40 m., .40 m., .35 m., and .30 m. in height. Eastwards of these, two stones, .12 m. and .20 m. high respectively, are less certainly courtstones in situ. The court measures 6.50 m. long from the gallery entrance to the more westerly of the three stones at the east end of the southern arm of the court and is 5.50 m. in greatest width. The area within the court is about .75 m. lower than the ground level in the gallery to which it opens and slopes down gently towards the east.

A row of heavy blocks runs northwards from the northern arm of the court and then turns westwards and north-westwards to form the edge of the pathway beside the fence. Few if any of these blocks can be accepted as an original part of the monument. They are not surveyed in detail and the plan represents their general position only.

No courtstones set as jambs across the gallery entrance, as in the eastern structure, are present. However, a short ante-chamber, 1.25 m. long and 1.10 m. broad, leads from the court to the jamb-entry of the first main chamber of the gallery. The north side of this ante-chamber is formed of two stones. The more easterly of these measures 1.00 m. high and the other is .75 m. high. The stone forming the south side is .40 m. high.

At the west end of the ante-chamber two jamb stones, inset in the gallery walls, form the entry to the first main chamber. The more northerly jamb is 1.00 m. high and the other, which leans slightly eastwards, is .30 m. high. The gap between the jambs is .85 m. Four sidestones of the northern side of the first main chamber are present. In order from east to west these measure, .50 m., .40 m., .20 m. and .40 m. in height. Outside the two most westerly of these is a split-boulder corbel placed with its flat surface inwards and leaning towards the gallery. It measures .60 m. long by .25 m. wide and .50 m. high. Outside the more easterly sidestone and leaning against the jamb is a stone 1.30 m. long, .40 m. wide and .90 m. high. It also is probably a corbel.

Four sidestones form the walling of the southern side of this chamber. In order from east to west these measure, .40 m., .50 m., .30 m. and .45 m. in height. A rough stone, 1.00 m. by .40 m. and .65 m. high, leaning against the more easterly sidestone, is probably a corbel. Inside the next sidestone a set stone, .10 m. high, may be a large packer. Alternatively this stone could be taken as a sidestone and the stone outside it considered as an entry to the side-chamber now to be described. A gap, .60 m. wide, between the orthostats in the middle of the southern side of the chamber gives access to a polygonal side-chamber. The stone forming the eastern side of the side-chamber is largely concealed and is .25 m. high. The next stone is .50 m. high and, together with a stone, .40 m. high, beside it, forms the back of the side chamber. The western sidestone of the chamber is .55 m. high and leans slightly inwards. The side-chamber is 2.25 m. long and 1.70 m. broad. The first main chamber is 4.50 m. long and about 1.85 m. wide. The general ground level within it is .50 m. to .75 m. lower than the top of the segmenting jambs and sill, next described.

The segmentation between the first and second main chambers in this gallery is marked by a pair of jambs with a high sill, or septal, between them. The more northerly jamb is .80 m. high, the opposite jamb is .70 m. high and the sill is .80 m. high. Two sidestones of the north side of the second main chamber are present. Both are exposed to a depth of .45 m. On the opposite side of the chamber a large stone 1.80 m. west of the segmentation is certainly a sidestone. It is 1.15 m. long, .40 m. wide and .50 m. high and leans inwards. Some .25 m. east of it another stone, .10 m. high, is probably a sidestone. It leans inwards. Outside these are two corbels both leaning inwards. The more westerly, which is .80 m. long by .40 m. wide and .60 m. high, is a split-boulder, placed

with its flat side inwards. The other is a slab .90 m. by .30 m. and .45 m. high. A third almost concealed stone, south of the jamb, protrudes .25 m. It might also be a corbel or, less probably, a sidestone. This chamber is 1.50 m. wide. The continuation of the chamber westwards is not defined. The ground level westwards of the segmentation for a distance of 1.75 m. is .15 m. lower than the top of the jambs and sill and about .50 m. higher than the level in the first main chamber. At a distance of 1.75 m. west of the segmentation there is a sharp step downwards, .75 m. deep, in the chamber fill. This is shown by hachuring on the plan. Surface evidence suggests that the western end of the gallery may be largely destroyed.

About .75 m. west of the most westerly orthostat of the gallery just described, a roughly circular area about 5.00 m. across extends to the back of the structure at the west end of the monument. This area is filled with large rounded boulders and is about .75 m. below the general level of the top of the cairn. Owing to the absence of evidence for the end of the gallery of the eastern element the distance between the galleries in the dual court arrangement cannot be determined.

Western Structure—Western Element of the Dual-Court Cairn

The western element of the dual-court component consists of a gallery divided by jambs into two main chambers with a small rear chamber (at the east) separated from the main gallery by a jamb and sill arrangement. There is no evidence for the entrance to the main gallery and, save for two possible courtstones 3.50 m. west of the surviving orthostats of the gallery, no evidence for a court. However, the level of the cairn where courtstones might be expected, on either side of the main long axis of the tomb, is relatively high in comparison to the height of the chamber orthostats and it is possible that courtstones could be concealed here. The two stones just mentioned stand near the western edge of the cairn. The more northerly is .25 m. high and the other .35 m. high. If either is a courtstone a full-court would be indicated but would be of small size. Neither is very convincing and it is, in any case, probable that the cairn has been damaged at this end. A few large stones, .80 m. in maximum dimension, in the fence some 3.00 m. west of the cairn edge, may well have come from the monument.

Three sidestones of the southern side of the more westerly chamber of the main gallery are present. These measure in order from west to east .75 m., .70 m. and .60 m. in height. Their outer sides are concealed in the cairn. The chamber area is indicated by a depression, shown by hachuring on the plan, and the northern face of this probably roughly follows the line of the northern side of the chamber from which the orthostats seem to have been removed. This chamber was at least 3.00 m. long.

The segmenting jambs are set .45 m. apart. The more northerly of the pair is .70 m. high and leans inwards while the opposite one is erect and is .90 m. high. A set stone running north-eastwards from the more northerly jamb may be a gallery sidestone. It is .35 m. high and leans inwards. Continuing the line of this stone is another, .15 m. high, but its function is uncertain if indeed it is a structural stone at all. The slab immediately south of these two stones measures .50 m. by .30 m. and .15 m. thick and may well be a fallen sidestone.

The opposite (southern) side of the gallery is also ill-defined. Beside the segmenting jamb is a large prostrate stone, 1.30 m. long, .65 m. wide and .35 m. thick, which is very probably a fallen sidestone. Two other sidestones are in situ but are considerably concealed. The more westerly is .12 m. high and leans inwards; the other is erect and is .22 m. high. Just east of this a stone, .10 m. high, is of doubtful significance. The dimensions of this chamber are, 2.30 m. long and approximately 2.00 m. wide.

The jambs marking the entry to the small rear chamber or annexe are erect and are each .35 m. high. They stand just west of the high sill or septal which runs between a sidestone of the annexe on the northern side and a third jamb stone (see below) fitted against the sidestone on the southern side. The sill is .10 m. lower than the top of the jambs to the west of it. The edge of a prostrate slab, at least .50 m. in maximum dimension and .08 m. thick, appears between the jambs west of the sill. It seems to have collapsed westwards. Its function if it was structural is quite uncertain though it might suggest a doubling of the sill. The jamb stone fixed between the sill and the sidestone

rises 0.07 m. higher than the sill. It may function as a continuation of the jamb set west of it to fill the space between the sill and the sidestone and need not imply a deliberate doubling of the jambs as such. The sidestone south of this jamb is 0.55 m. higher than the sill and, owing to the lower level of the ground in the annexe, is exposed to a height of 1.00 m. It leans inwards. Its top is gabled and it appears itself to function somewhat as a further jamb stone beside the sill. The sidestone abutting against the sill on the north is 0.10 m. higher than the sill and it is exposed to a height of 0.70 m. It leans inwards. Forming the north-east corner of the annexe is a stone, 0.35 m. high, the back of which is concealed. The backstone, though exposed to a height of 0.30 m. only, is approximately as high as the sill. The back of the stone forming the south-east corner of the annexe is concealed. It is also approximately equal to the sill in height. Its inner face is exposed to a height of 0.45 m. The dimensions of the annexe are 1.25 m. long by 1.25 m. wide. A large stone, 1.50 m. by 1.00 m. and at least 0.50 m. thick, south of the annexe, seems to be prostrate and may be a displaced roofstone. Another stone, measuring 1.40 m. by 0.45 m. and 0.45 m. thick, lying about 0.75 m. south of the southern side of the first main chamber, might be a displaced corbel or roofstone.

Many stones in the cairn are firmly embedded and some of these along the sides of the mound may well be kerb stones. However, no certain line of kerbing can be distinguished and it is scarcely possible to segregate such kerb stones as may be exposed from heavy cairn stones. Two very heavy stones shown on the plan a few metres south-east of the eastern court of the dual-court component are each over 2.00 m. long and 1.50 m. wide. The one nearest the court entry is at least 0.70 m. thick and the other at least 0.40 m. These could be displaced roofstones but on the other hand they resemble natural rocks in situ and may, in fact, be such. The second explanation seems preferable for the example nearest the court entry.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 137-138 (MA. 31).

53. **Carrowgarve South.** O.S. 38: 5: 2 (9.7 cm., 41.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. G 109 316. Fig. 45. Plate 19.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ mile south-east of the court cairn at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52). It is situated on rolling pasture land overlooking a loop of the Deel River some 300 yards distant to the south. Beyond the river is a fine view of Nephin and the Nephin Beg Mountains. The land in the vicinity is mostly under pasture but some tillage is undertaken. There are a number of old gravel pits in the area and the edge of one of these (since filled in) was within 1.00 m. of the south-east corner of the monument in 1961.

The monument consists of a gallery, apparently wedge-shaped, orientated roughly NE-SW. It is surrounded by a U-shaped outer-wall set little more than 1.00 m. distant from the gallery sides. No roofstones are in situ but a large stone, 2.20 m. by 1.15 m. and 0.35 m. thick, lying near the west end of the gallery, is probably a displaced cover. Considerable remains of cairn are present and the gallery itself is almost completely filled. The cairn is of irregular oval outline and is 11.50 m. long (E-W) and 7.00 m. wide (N-S). It is about 1.00 m. high at the west and decreases slightly in height towards the east.

The greater part of the gallery is concealed but its outline can be traced at the east. Here the tops of a backstone and three sidestones are visible. The backstone, which leans outwards, is 0.40 m. high. The northern side is represented by two stones. That closest to the backstone leans inwards and is 0.25 m. high. The second stone is exposed to a height of only 0.10 m. The sidestone at the opposite side is 0.40 m. high. Some 2.00 m. west of this is a stone, 0.20 m. high, set transversely to the long axis of the gallery. Its function is not clear but it may indicate the presence of a portico. Beyond this a set stone, 0.20 m. high, may represent a continuation of the gallery. At this end of the gallery and 2.00 m. north of the last a stone, 0.15 m. high, may be structural but its function is not clear.

The outer-walling is best preserved along the southern side of the monument. Here five stones remain in situ. These vary from .50 m. to .85 m. in height. Two stones of this line have collapsed outwards. The more westerly stone would be .80 m. high if erect and the other .45 m. high. The stone forming the eastern end of the outer-walling has also collapsed outwards. If erect it would be .70 m. high. Five stones of the outer-wall can be identified as such along the northern side of the tomb. Two of these are in situ but the others have fallen outwards. If all were erect they would be from .50 m. to 1.10 m. high. Four stones at the north-western corner of the monument are of uncertain function. The three smaller, which are roughly in line, may be displaced from the outer-wall. The fourth is a large prostrate stone 1.85 m. in maximum dimension. About 3.00 m. south of this is a stone which has fallen outwards. If erect it would be .80 m. high. It may be part of a facade.

54. Ardagh. O.S. 39: 1: 3 (16.7 cm., 60.5 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 50-100. G 195 176. Fig. 40. Plate 22.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on gently sloping ground about one mile east of the north end of Lough Conn. From the site there is a fine view of the Nephin Beg mountains to the west and, towards the south-east, the Ox Mountains in Sligo are visible. The land in the vicinity is used mainly for pasture and tillage but in places the lower ground is damp and marshy. Heavy trees flourish in the area and the bush-fences are thick and strong.

The monument is fairly well preserved. The long axis runs roughly N-S. A gallery, divided into two more or less equal chambers by a jamb and sill arrangement, opens northwards through a short ante-chamber. In front of this is an area, roughly U-shaped, bounded at the east and west by low banks in which many stones are exposed. The area enclosed is about 7.00 m. long (N-S) and up to 4.50 m. wide (E-W). This may well be the site of a court. However, the majority of the stones here are probably only cairn stones though six (indicated by broken hatched lines on the plan) may perhaps be courtstones. Southwards from the gallery the cairn extends for a distance of about 22.50 m. A fence crosses it in a NE-SW direction, about 8.00 m. south of the gallery, and beyond this the exposed cairn stones are especially large and firmly bedded. The overall length of the monument is approximately 38.00 m. Its original width cannot be determined because of cultivation, which seems to have removed part of the cairn. There are some indications that it was probably widest at the north and tapered towards the south.

The ante-chamber preceding the gallery proper is represented at the east by an erect stone, .55 m. high, set roughly in line with the long axis of the gallery. Behind this and set transversely is an entrance jamb, .85 m. high. Opposite this and apparently pitched outwards is a stone, 1.20 m. by .70 m. by .55 m., which may be a displaced entrance jamb. Between the two stones is a loose stone .75 m. in maximum dimension.

The east side of the front chamber consists of two stones. The more northerly of these is a large stone .75 m. high. The second, which leans inwards, runs in towards the segmentation. It is .50 m. high. At the opposite side of the chamber is another large sidestone .90 m. high. Outside the north end of this and slightly overlapping it is a set stone, .50 m. high, which seems to be part of the gallery side.

The segmentation between the chambers consists of two jambs with a high stone between them. The western jamb is only .30 m. high but its top portion may be broken away. The eastern jamb leans inwards. It is .85 m. high. Its top surface, which is bevelled, supports a large split-boulder type corbel .60 m. thick. This corbel rests also on two sidestones of the front chamber and one of the second chamber. The stone between the jambs is higher than the sides of the gallery and may have reached to the roof. It is 1.10 m. high and its top is pointed.

The single sidestone on the east side of the second chamber is .50 m. high. The more northerly of the two sidestones of the opposite side is .50 m. high. The second stone, which is .35 m. high, runs inwards towards the end of the gallery. The large backstone is

·85 m. high. Its top is flat but its outer edge slopes downwards. A large displaced roofstone or corbel in the chamber rests against the backstone. It is a split boulder and at present its flat surface is uppermost. It is 2·00 m. by 1·85 m. and ·60 m. thick. Outside the gallery, at the east, are two large stones also of split-boulder type which may be displaced roofstones. The more northerly is 2·00 m. by 1·60 m. and at least ·50 m. thick, and the other is 2·75 m. by 2·40 m. and at least ·80 m. thick.

The gallery is about 6·00 m. in overall length. The chambers are each about 2·75 m. long and 2·00 m. in average width. In most cases the top surface of the gallery side-stones slope downwards on the outside and are well suited to bear corbels.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 96-97, (MA. 14).

55. Creggaun. O.S. 39: 3: 1 (49·2 cm., 55·5 cm.). "Children's Burial Ground" (not as an antiquity). O.D. 50-100. G 123 317. Fig. 46. Plate 22.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on the western slopes of a low ridge about one mile west of the River Moy. The ridge is one of many in the area but on it are numerous erratic boulders and cropping rock which are not evident elsewhere. The land on the ridge is mostly pasture and meadow but in places is invaded by gorse. The ground between the ridges is ill-drained and boggy. Ancient tree stumps are exposed in bogland a short distance to the south. The Pontoon hills and Nephin Mountain are visible to the south and west and towards the south-east the Ox Mountains form the skyline.

The monument is ruined. The long axis runs roughly E-W. At the east are three orthostats, representing part of the southern side of a court, and leading to the ruins of a gallery, at least 5·00 m. long, divided into two chambers by a pair of jambs. The structure is incorporated in a roughly oval-shaped mound about 23·00 m. long (E-W) and some 15·00 m. wide (N-S) across the middle. The mound, which reaches a height of about ·75 m., is strewn with loose boulders the majority of which seem to be displaced cairn stones. These are from ·40 m. to ·75 m. in maximum dimension. At the western end of the mound is a huge natural rock, 2·60 m. in maximum dimension and ·65 m. high, which seems to have been incorporated in the original cairn. At the north-east corner of the mound an indentation with steep sides seems to be the result of robbing.

The court area is much disturbed and here several large displaced stones, up to 1·50 m. in maximum dimension, lie on the mound. The court orthostats form a shallow curve extending for a distance of 3·50 m. beyond the entrance to the gallery. The two courtstones nearest the entrance are both ·35 m. high and the third is ·50 m. high. The gallery entrance is between two well-matched flat-topped jambs each ·55 m. high. The space between them is ·55 m.

The front chamber of the gallery is 1·75 m. long. The southern side is represented by a single stone ·50 m. long and ·35 m. high. At the opposite side no side stone is visible but here a stone, 1·25 m. long, leaning heavily inwards, is probably a corbel. A loose stone, ·85 m. in maximum dimension, lies in the chamber.

The segmenting jambs are erect, flat-topped stones set ·40 m. apart. They seem to have been inset in the walls of the gallery. The northern jamb is ·65 m. high and the southern is about ·15 m. lower. These give access to the second chamber which was at least 3·50 m. long. It seems to have been about 1·75 m. wide. Two sidestones of the north side are visible. That nearest the segmentation is ·60 m. high and the other is ·45 m. high. Both stones have pointed tops and are set with their flat faces inwards. Only one sidestone of the opposite side is exposed. It is at least ·60 m. long and is ·30 m. high. Its flat top supports a stone, 1·00 m. in maximum dimension and ·25 m. thick, which may be a corbel but it is doubtful if this stone is in original position. Beyond these are two stones which seem to be corbels in situ. They may well indicate the western end of the gallery. Both are at least 1·00 m. in maximum dimension and ·30 m. thick. Within the rear chamber and close to the southern segmenting jamb is a stone, 1·35 m. in maximum dimension, which seems to be displaced.

56. **Ballybeg.** O.S. 39: 7: 4 (53·4 cm., 30·7 cm.). "Children's Burial Ground" (not as an antiquity). O.D. 50-100. G 123 314. Fig. 47. Plate 23.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated near the top of a ridge in undulating country about one mile west of the River Moy. The land in the vicinity is under pasture and tillage and is capable of supporting heavy timber. Towards the east the Ox Mountains form the skyline and towards the south-west Nephin Mountain and the Pontoon hills are visible. The mountains of north Mayo appear in the distance towards the north-west.

The monument seems to have been of considerable size but is now very ruined. It consists of the remains of a trapezoidal cairn, at present about 20·50 m. long, orientated roughly NNW-SSE. The wide end of the cairn, at the SSE, encloses the ruins of a court which appears to have been of elongated oval shape. The top of the cairn northwards of the court is covered in a confused mass of stones many of which are up to 1·20 m. in maximum dimension. We were informed locally that this was the result of field clearance. At present the cairn is from 1·00 m. to 1·50 m. in height. No gallery is visible but it is possible that structure is concealed by the debris. The cairn tapers rather sharply towards the NNW where portion of it may have been removed during field clearance.

The outline of the cairn is best preserved towards the SSE where a number of kerb stones are exposed at both long sides and across the front. The front of the cairn is indicated by an irregular edge of stones, about 14·00 m. long, but only three stones, towards the east, are certainly kerb orthostats in situ. The heights of these from east to west, respectively, are: 1·20 m., ·50 m. and 1·25 m. The remainder seem to be cairn stones though some may, perhaps, be displaced kerb stones. Along the more westerly side of the cairn three kerb stones are exposed. These have flat vertical outer faces. Their heights from north to south, respectively, are: ·40 m., ·35 m. and ·25 m. Four orthostats of the kerb are in position along the more easterly side of the cairn. The heights of these from north to south, respectively, are: ·55 m., ·35 m., ·35 m., ·45 m. The other stones along this edge may be kerb stones pitched outwards. One, at the extreme south end of the line, is ·80 m. in maximum dimension and ·25 m. thick. Above it lies a boulder (not on plan) ·60 m. in maximum dimension. A second stone is 3·50 m. further to the north. It is 1·10 m. long, ·25 m. thick and would be ·45 m. high if erect.

The more westerly side of the court is best preserved. Here five orthostats are in position. Their heights from north to south, respectively, are: ·55 m., ·75 m., ·65 m., ·40 m. and ·55 m. The two more northerly of these and that at the south are of split-boulder type set with their flat faces inwards. The second stone from the south is forced inwards and its base would be somewhat further westwards than it appears on the plan. Only two stones of the opposite side of the court are in position. The more northerly is a slab with a flat inner face and is ·40 m. high. The second is of split-boulder type set with its flat face inwards. It is ·45 m. high. About ·75 m. inside the line of these courtstones is a heavily leaning stone, ·35 m. high, which is probably displaced.

The precise shape and dimensions of the court cannot be determined. It would have been at least 6·00 m. long and was probably about 4·50 m. in greatest width. The nature of the articulation of the court entrance with the front of the cairn is not clear and cannot be ascertained without excavation.

57. **Mullaghawny.** O.S. 39: 12: 3 (92·0 cm., 26·0 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 50-100. G 274 138. Fig. 22. Plate 23.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated immediately east of a bye-road, about one mile north-north-east of Carrowkeribly Lough. It stands near the east edge of a low ridge which rises from the boggy lands stretching eastwards from the River Moy, one and a half miles distant, to the lake-studded region around Attymass village at the foot of the Ox Mountains. The higher land in the area is used for pasture and tillage.

The monument is very heavily overgrown. The long axis runs roughly E-W. At the east are the remains of a court, which leads to a gallery approximately 5·00 m. long,

divided into two chambers by a pair of jambs. The chambers contain a considerable amount of fill and the orthostats rise but little above this. A roofstone, perhaps somewhat displaced, covers the west end of the gallery. Several corbels (not on plan) rest above the sidestones. There is a considerable amount of cairn present but its perimeter is difficult to define because of the overgrowth. A stony mass, extending for a distance of 5.50 m. beyond the west end of the gallery, is continued by a grassy mound which extends for a further 4.50 m. The cairn, immediately behind the gallery, is about 9.00 m. wide. It is not possible to trace the cairn east of the court. The field in front of the tomb has been recently cleared and some large boulders are dumped at this end of the monument.

A single courtstone, .40 m. high, flanks the entrance to the gallery at the north. 4.50 m. south of this is another courtstone .50 m. high. Some 3.00 m. north-east of the entrance to the gallery is a stone, flush with the ground, which may be another courtstone.

The front chamber is 2.25 m. long and about 2.00 m. wide. The entrance is between two well-matched jambs set .60 m. apart. That at the south is .65 m. high, and the other is .55 m. high. The northern side of the chamber is represented by two stones. Both are about .25 m. high. The opposite side of this chamber is much concealed. Here a small piece of stone, .35 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. high, seems to be the top of a sidestone. Immediately east of this is a small boulder and beyond this a stone which may be a corbel. Resting on these is a stone, 1.10 m. by 1.00 m. and .40 m. thick, which may be a corbel and close to the sidestone is a loose stone, 1.15 m. by .80 m. by .25 m., which may be a displaced corbel. (The last two stones described do not appear on the plan.)

The segmenting jambs are set .45 m. apart. The northern jamb, which is inset in the gallery walls, is .55 m. high. The southern jamb is .45 m. high. Immediately west of these is a prostrate stone, 1.35 m. in maximum dimension, which may be a collapsed lintel.

The western chamber is 2.65 m. long and narrows from 1.60 m. wide at the east to 1.25 m. wide at the backstone. Two sidestones are visible at the north side. The more easterly is .25 m. high and the other is .35 m. high. Three corbels (not on plan) lie side by side above this side of the chamber. The more easterly lies immediately behind the segmenting jamb and is a split-boulder type resting on its rounded side with its flat surface sloping downwards to the north. It is .70 m. long, .60 m. wide and .40 m. thick. No sidestone is visible beneath it. The other two corbels rest on the more easterly sidestone. That at the east is an irregular block, .80 m. long, .45 m. wide and .40 m. thick, and the other—a flat slab—is .80 m. long, .45 m. wide and .15 m. thick. Above the last is another corbel (not on plan), .80 m. long, .60 m. wide and .20 m. thick, which supports the roofstone. Three orthostats are in position on the south side of the chamber. The more easterly is .15 m. high and the stone next to it is .30 m. high. Two high-pitched slab corbels (not on plan) rest, side by side, above the last. That at the east is .85 m. long and .30 m. thick and the other is .70 m. long and .25 m. thick. The southern portions of these slabs are concealed in the cairn. The third sidestone is .70 m. high. Above this is a split-boulder (not on plan) .90 m. by .80 m. by .70 m. Its round face rests at one point on the stone beneath it but it may be somewhat displaced. The stone closing the west end of the gallery is .35 m. high. Its top is flat but its edges at the north and south slope downwards.

The roofstone is 2.40 m. (N-S) by 1.60 m. (E-W) and .50 m. thick. It rests on the corbel mentioned above and behind the backstone near the north-west corner it is supported by two small stones resting one above the other. These may be isolated stones of the cairn held in position by the weight of the roof. The lower stone is a small boulder, .50 m. in maximum dimension, and the stone above this is a flat stone .30 m. by .20 m. and .10 m. thick. The south-west corner of the roofstone rests on several small stones which also seem to be cairn stones. At no place does the roof rest on the backstone and there is a gap of about .20 m. between the two.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 122-123, Gallen No. 1.
de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 97, (M.A. 15).
O.S.L., 14/E.19, 107, 129.

58. **Drumrevagh.** O.S. 39: 15: 2 (59.8 cm., 13.7 cm.). "Darby's Bed." O.D. 50-100. G 240 126. Fig. 48. Plate 23.

Court Cairn

The monument lies about half a mile west of the River Moy near the western borders of Mount Falcon estate. It stands on a plantation of young trees, a few yards north of Rathnamorrow which has been used as a private burial ground. The gently rolling land in the vicinity is mostly under pasture and tillage and the estate is well wooded. The outlook from the site is restricted save to the north and north-east where there is an extensive view across the undulating countryside.

The monument, which is very heavily overgrown, consists of a gallery, which was at least 7.00 m. long, orientated roughly NNE-SSW. There are some traces of a long cairn present but the limits of this cannot be ascertained because of the overgrowth. It would seem to have been at least 17.00 m. long.

The gallery orthostats are almost entirely of split-boulder type set with their flat surfaces facing into the gallery. The more westerly side of the gallery is represented by six stones. That at the north has fallen and is now almost prostrate. It is 1.70 m. in maximum dimension and if erect it would be about .90 m. high. The next sidestone is .65 m. high. The stone next to this leans heavily inwards, and may be somewhat out of position. If erect it would be .50 m. high. The other three stones of this side are in situ but lean slightly inwards. The heights of these from north to south, respectively, are: .70 m., .75 m. and .65 m. Two small set stones outside the western side of the gallery are probably cairn stones.

The opposite side of the gallery is represented by four set stones. A fifth stone, at the north, has fallen into the gallery area. It is .90 m. in maximum dimension. The sidestone next to this leans inwards. If erect it would be .65 m. high. Between this and the next sidestone is a group of four small stones .10 m. high. These may be cairn stones or packing stones. The heights of the other sidestones, from north to south, respectively, are: .30 m., .65 m. and 1.00 m.

The stone closing the south-east end of the gallery is set outside the ends of the gallery sides. It is .75 m. high. Its top edge is flat but the top corners slope downwards. .50 m. behind this is a small set stone and another set stone stands 1.50 m. east of this. These are probably only cairn stones. A displaced slab, 1.50 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick, lies about 3.50 m. behind the backstone.

About 1.50 m. in front of the gallery are two stones, each about 1.15 m. high, leaning against each other. They do not seem to be in situ and may have been placed in their present position in recent times. Several stones are exposed further to the north. Two of these are set and could be courtstones but this is most uncertain. One, about 2.00 m. east of the last described stone, is .45 m. high. The second, which is .35 m. high, is 1.80 m. north-north-east of the last. The other stones at this end of the monument are probably cairn stones.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 97, (MA. 16), (Pl.).

59. **Ballymacredmond.** O.S. 39: 15: 5 (55.7 cm., 7.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. G 235 119. Fig. 49. Plate 24.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on a low ridge about half a mile south-west of the tomb in Drumrevagh (Ma. 58). It lies immediately east of a small bye-road which runs more or less parallel with the railway through the southern portion of the townland. The land in the vicinity is mostly pasture but some tillage is undertaken.

The tomb is very ruined and has been interfered with by later building. The long axis runs approximately E-W. At the east is a circular stone-faced bank, about 1.00 m. high and 1.00 m. to 2.00 m. in thickness, which encloses an area roughly 4.50 m. in diameter. Extending westwards from this for a distance of 7.00 m. are the ruins of a gallery. Two set stones at right angles to the gallery side, at the north, seem to be the

remains of a side-chamber opening into the gallery. The gallery and the enclosures are incorporated in a mound about 21.00 m. long and from .50 m. to 1.00 m. high. The elongated oval shape of the mound is probably due, in part, to cultivation. It is about 10.00 m. wide across the enclosure at the east and tapers to about 6.00 m. near the west. Stones exposed along the northern edge of the mound are probably cairn stones and cannot be regarded as a real kerb. These average .50 m. in height. The mound is terminated at the east by a field-fence which passes the monument in a north-south direction. An irregular line of stones exposed along the east face of the fence, though superficially resembling a facade, is probably not an original feature of the monument.

The enclosure at the east may follow the line of a court but none of the stones exposed in it appear to be courtstones in situ. A fine stone, .70 m. high, at the west end of the enclosure seems to be in situ but its function is not clear. About .50 m. west of this is another set stone .50 m. high. It would serve well as an entrance jamb and the stone in front of it may indicate some form of ante-chamber but this is most uncertain.

The gallery is poorly preserved. Only two orthostats of the southern side survive. The more easterly stone is .30 m. high. Its top is pointed and its outside face slopes downwards. A corbel of split-boulder type, 1.10 m. in maximum dimension, rests with its rounded face on this sloping surface. The second sidestone is .25 m. high. Above it rests a slab, 1.40 m. in maximum dimension and .20 m. thick, which may be another corbel or perhaps a displaced roofstone. A low mound in front of these stones may be part of the fill of the gallery isolated by the robbing of the material around it.

The northern side of the gallery is represented by three stones. The more easterly is .20 m. high. The second sidestone is of split-boulder type and is set with its flat surface facing into the gallery. It is .35 m. high. About .60 m. west of this is a stone which leans heavily to the west. Its function is uncertain and it may not be in situ. It would be .50 m. high if erect. The third sidestone is very concealed and only .10 m. of its height is exposed. The west end of the gallery is marked by a massive backstone .80 m. high. Its top is flat and the north and south ends slope downwards.

The set stones outside the gallery, at the north, appear to represent the sides of a side-chamber opening into the gallery between the two more easterly sidestones. The stone at the east is of split-boulder type and is .50 m. high. The stone at the opposite side is .30 m. high. A small stone, .10 m. high, continuing the line of the last stone to the north, may indicate a further extension of this side of the chamber.

The number of chambers in the gallery proper is uncertain. However, the line of the existing sidestones indicates a distinct waisting about 3.00 m. from the backstone and at this point segmentation is probable.

60. **Carrowcrom.** O.S. 40: 2: 5 (37.8 cm., 48.8 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 100-200. G 315 161. Fig. 31. Plate 24.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb is a national monument vested in the Commissioners of Public Works. It is situated about two miles south-west of Bunnyconnellan in a region of low ridges and drumlins. The Ox Mountains are visible towards the east and south-east but elsewhere the outlook is not extensive. The land in the vicinity of the tomb is mostly pasture but some tillage is undertaken.

The tomb is well preserved and retains its roof. It consists of a short gallery, orientated approximately NE-SW, enclosed in a roughly U-shaped cairn. The cairn is partly covered by a dump of small field stones. Protruding from this are several stones which mark the line of an outer-wall. The straight west end of the cairn may be, in part, due to reconstruction. The cairn is 6.00 m. long (E-W) and about 6.50 m. across the west end. It is 1.50 m. high at the west and decreases in height towards the east. A slight drop in ground level about 1.00 m. distant from the cairn probably marks the limits of cultivation.

The gallery is at least 3.50 m. long and narrows slightly from 1.40 m. wide at the entrance to 1.20 m. wide at the east where it terminates at a blocking of loose rubble. It is 1.10 m. high at the west and the roof slopes downwards towards the east. At the

entrance is a stone, .25 m. high, which seems to be a low sill but the possibility of reconstruction leaves some doubt as to its originality. Four orthostats are visible along either side of the gallery. The heights of those at the southern side, from front to rear, respectively are: 1.00 m., 1.10 m., .80 m. and .55 m. The heights of the stones at the opposite side, from west to east, respectively are: .95 m., .75 m., .75 m. and .65 m. The gallery is covered by two overlapping roofstones. These are supported by small portions of dry-stone work set on top of, and between the sidestones. The stones forming this are small—10 m. to .65 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. to .20 m. thick. The western roofstone is 2.00 m. long, at least 1.60 m. wide and .25 m. thick. Its northern edge is not visible. The second roofstone is much concealed. It is at least 2.00 m. long, at least 1.80 m. wide and about .25 m. thick.

The greater part of the exposed outer-walling is at the east where six stones form a U-shaped line around the back of the cairn. These stones are deeply buried. They are from .35 m. to .50 m. high. A set stone, beside the entrance to the tomb, at the south seems to mark the end of the row and may also be part of a facade. It is 1.10 m. high. North of the entrance an almost prostrate slab, 1.00 m. long and .50 m. thick, may belong to a facade at this side. If erect it would be about 1.00 m. high.

61. Keel East. O.S. 42: 11: 5 (55.8 cm., 17.0 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 500. F 649 076. Fig. 51. Plate 25.

Court Cairn

The monument stands on rough heathy pasture on the lower slopes of Slievemore. The soil in the vicinity of the tomb is stony and thin with patches of peat. Southwards the land tends to improve while a few hundred yards to the north the rugged upper slopes of Slievemore begin. Two small streamlets flow close to the site. The position commands an extensive view southwards across the flat bog around Keel Lough and beyond to the Menawn cliffs and the sea. Westwards, the mountains dominated by Croaghan, form the skyline. To the east and south-east are the rolling central uplands of Achill with the mass of the Mayo mountains rising beyond them.

The main long axis of the monument is approximately N-S. At the north is a roughly oval court leading to a segmented gallery set at a noticeable angle to the long axis of the court. The gallery is somewhat disordered and some of the structure is partly concealed by overlying corbels and debris. A roofstone remains in position over the southern end of the gallery. The uneven nature of the ground makes it difficult to distinguish cairn material from the natural surface. Stones lying to the south and east of the gallery are probably cairn debris. Several set stones, partially concealed in the peaty soil, about 5.00 m. south of the gallery may indicate the line of the southern end of a kerb but this is very uncertain. However, surface indications suggest that the cairn would not have extended much beyond these stones. Just .50 m. north of these is a small pillar-like stone of triangular plan the broken top of which lies near by. When intact it was .95 m. high and .45 m. by .45 m. by .40 m. at the base. Its function, if any, is not clear.

The court is 5.00 m. long N-S and 4.25 m. broad E-W. It is bounded by thirteen orthostats averaging about .50 m. in height. Peat and soil, apparently washed down from the hillside, have accumulated against the outer sides of these stones and consequently the level of the court appears as sunken below the surrounding ground. The entrance to the court, at the north, is flanked by two slabs set about .90 m. apart and forming a short passage less than 1.00 m. long. The eastern stone is .50 m. high and the western is .95 m. high. Beside the last is a low set slab running for a short distance across the entrance. Its function is uncertain if, indeed, it be original at all. A set stone, together with two small almost concealed stones at the north end of the western entry slab, may perhaps indicate the presence of a kerb articulating with the entrance.

Within the south-west quadrant of the court and close to the perimeter is a pillar-like stone, .85 m. high, loosely set in the ground. In a corresponding position in the south-east quadrant is a loose slab, .60 m. high, which is tilted against one of the court-stones. A stone, .75 m. high, outside the court at the south-west, leans against the western entrance jamb of the gallery. It may be a corbel, somewhat displaced.

The gallery is about 4.50 m. long. At the north end is a small chamber, 1.00 m. long by about 1.80 m. broad, separated from the rest of the gallery by two segmenting jambs. The entrance to this chamber is between two stones set .35 m. apart which, while forming part of the perimeter of the court, also serve as entrance jambs. Both these stones are partly concealed by debris and by a large slab, 1.60 m. by .90 m. and .30 m. thick, perhaps a displaced lintel stone, which lies across them. Both are exposed to a depth of .60 m. The east side of the front chamber consists of a single orthostat .65 m. high. The western side is concealed by two large flat slabs, apparently corbels, lying side by side. That at the north is at least .55 m. in maximum dimension and the other is at least 1.15 m. in maximum dimension. Beneath the last is a partly concealed block, at least 1.10 m. long and .30 m. thick, resting on the more westerly of the segmenting jambs. This jamb is .35 m. high and the opposite one is .45 m. high. The gap between them is .50 m. Among the debris in the chamber is a large slab, 1.55 m. high, 1.10 m. long and .25 m. thick, leaning heavily to the south-east and touching the chamber side. Its top is evenly curved. Though it is firmly fixed at present it does not appear to be in situ. It may be a displaced roofstone. Lying across it, near the base, is a fallen pillar-like stone 2.00 m. long, .50 m. wide and .30 m. thick. Its original function is unknown.

The southern portion of the gallery is 3.20 m. long. It is closed at its south end by a large backstone .75 m. high. The eastern side of this part of the gallery is represented by two orthostats. The more southerly is .80 m. high. The second, a pillar-like stone, .90 m. high, leans against the last. Two other stones, placed on edge, north of these, appear to continue the gallery side but are quite loose and are not original.

One sidestone is visible on the western side of the southern part of the gallery. It is a very heavy block .75 m. high. South of this and completing the gallery side are three superimposed slabs, .15 m. to .25 m. thick, laid tilted in corbel fashion. The two uppermost corbels overlap the heavy orthostat to the north. Some very small stones jammed between the corbels are probably original. Outside the south-west corner of the gallery and leaning against the corbels is a slab, .70 m. high, and beyond the eastern side of the chamber, at the south, is another slab, .75 m. high, which leans very heavily to the east. These two slabs may be displaced corbels.

The roofstone is 2.50 m. wide (E-W), 1.75 m. long (N-S) and .20 m. to .45 m. thick. Its south-east edge is bevelled and bears against a bulge on the inner face of the backstone. Elsewhere it rises above the backstone but at no point is the gap between the top of the backstone and the roof greater than .10 m. The roofstone rests also on the more southerly orthostat of the east side of the gallery, and on the uppermost corbel of the group at the south-west corner of the gallery.

The debris in the portion of the gallery south of the segmenting jambs makes it impossible to determine the exact design of this portion of the tomb. It is possible that this portion was subdivided but on present evidence the gallery appears as consisting of two chambers, the front being very short.

If we are correct in equating this site with Wood-Martin's third site (Borlase C) no evidence of the second court is apparent. The Ordnance Survey Letters mention only the northern court and give no indication of one to the south unless "small pillar stones" around the roofstone be so interpreted. One is inclined to think that Wood-Martin wrongly interpreted the debris south of the gallery as a circular court in accordance with his apparent liking for regular arrangements.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 119-122, Burrishoole, Site C (Pl. Drg.).

Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887-1888), 371-372 and Figs. 193, 194. Reprinted in *R.S.A.I., Extra Volume for 1888-1889*, 243-244 and Figs. 193, 194. *Pagan Ireland* (London, 1895), 280 (Pl.).

Westropp: *R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series, No. VI* (1905), 35 ("spectacle like" and Figs. p. 36). Previously published as *R.S.A.I. Guide to Sea Excursion* (1904), 35-37. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIV (1914), 300, No. 2. *P.R.I.A.*, XXXI (1911), *Clare Island Survey* (Part 2), 2, lines 15-16 and 24.

Piggott and Powell: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVII (1947), 137-139, Site B (Pl. Phs.).

de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 205-208, Site 1 (Pl. Phs.).

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 98, (MA. 21).

O.S.L., 14/E.28, 342-343, No. 6.

62. Keel East. O.S. 42: 15: 1 (52.4 cm., 14.1 cm.). "Giant's Grave." O.D. 100-200. F 646 073. Fig. 50. Plate 25.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated immediately south of the old road leading westwards to the deserted village of Slievemore. It stands just above the present line of tillage on ground which slopes rather sharply from north down to south. This slope continues beyond the tomb for about thirty yards after which it becomes more gentle. The land north of the road formerly provided good grazing but is now largely invaded by almost impenetrable gorse. There are remains of wide tillage beds in the vicinity of the monument and in the gorse beyond the road.

The monument is heavily overgrown by gorse and bramble. It consists of a long cairn, orientated roughly N-S, incorporating at its southern end a well-preserved court giving access to a ruined gallery. Both court and gallery contain a considerable amount of fill. The cairn is roughly rectangular in shape and is about 24.00 m. long by 10.00 m. to 12.00 m. broad. Along the east edge are traces of an old fence, against which are set the ruins of a house and an adjoining outhouse. The western side of the cairn is fairly straight except for a rectangular protrusion near the middle. In line westwards from this is the faint track of an old fence. The fence of the old road runs across the northern edge of the cairn but there is no indication that the cairn extended beyond the road fence. The limit of the southern edge of the cairn is likewise uncertain. Several heavy set stones running south-east from the cairn may indicate some form of facade but it seems more probable that at least some of these belong to an extension of the old fence which runs along the eastern edge of the monument. There is a pile of loose stones at the south-west corner of the cairn and many loose stones scattered elsewhere over the monument. No certain remains of kerbing appear though a rough line of partially concealed slabs at the north-west corner of the cairn may be some indication of the original edge.

The court is of very short oval shape and is 5.75 m. long (N-S) by 5.00 m. wide (E-W). It is delimited by seventeen stones. Two of these form a well-matched pair flanking the entrance. The western is .90 m. high and the eastern .70 m. high. They both taper to blunt points. The width of the entrance between them narrows from 1.25 m. at the outside to .80 m. inside. The remainder of the courtstones vary from .15 m. to .75 m. in height. Outside the north-western quadrant of the court is a stone apparently set, leaning heavily inwards across a courtstone. It seems to act as a strengthening of the court wall. Several displaced and partly concealed stones lie within the court.

The gallery is greatly concealed by cairn material. Debris and the superimposition of slabs makes examination difficult. No segmentation is visible and the number of chambers cannot be determined. The entrance is between two blocks which form part of the court perimeter and also serve as entrance jambs. They are set .45 m. apart and rise scarcely .20 m. above the surface.

One sidestone is visible at the south end of the western side of the gallery. It is overlapped by a slab which appears to be a corbel. Overlying this at either end are two slabs which may be displaced roofstones. Another slab to the west may also be a roofstone. 2.00 m. north of the sidestone is a stone (hatched on plan) which leans heavily to the east. It is not certain whether this is another sidestone or a corbel. Two sidestones remain in situ at the south end of the eastern side of the gallery. The more southerly is almost concealed by a corbel-like slab which lies above it. Overlying this is a large slab, 3.20 m. long, 1.00 m. wide and .25 m. thick, which may be a displaced roofstone. The second orthostat leans heavily outwards.

Across the north end of the gallery is a fine slab set on edge and measuring 2.20 m. long, .75 m. high and .25 m. thick which we take to be the backstone of the gallery. We were informed locally that this slab was said to have been found lying flat, concealing a large quantity of sea-shells and that it was placed in its present position in comparatively recent times. It appears, however, in Wood-Martin's plan in its present position. Its appearance leads one to believe that it is in original position and that local tradition in this case may not be entirely accurate. At the east end of the backstone and in line

with the east side of the gallery is a flat slab which seems to be a corbel. A similar slab occupies a corresponding position on the opposite side of the gallery. South of these slabs, and lying in the gallery, is a large slab which may be a displaced corbel or roof-stone. If the stone crossing the gallery at the north is indeed the backstone, the gallery would be about 6.20 m. long. It would seem to have been about 1.80 m. wide.

North of the stone taken to be the backstone is a hollow, 1.20 m. long (N-S) and 2.00 m. wide (E-W), which appears to be the result of digging into the cairn. Beyond this hollow, to the north, masses of stones, many firmly set, protrude from the cairn. One group of some seven large stones rise in a confused mass about 2.50 m. north of the hollow. The tallest is about 1.00 m. high. These form no recognizable arrangement and are probably merely heavy cairn material. No further structure is visible at this end of the monument.

Wood-Martin's plan and description indicate an elaborate structure consisting of a gallery, with very long transepts opening off either side, preceded by two circular enclosures one in front of the other along the main axis. The whole is shown to be enclosed within a circular cairn some ninety-six feet in diameter. The details of the monument are obviously regularized. The description of the circular cairn seems based not on the remains, but on the evidence of local information. The original Ordnance Survey of 1839 shows a rectangular mound of apparently similar dimensions to those of the present remains. The peculiar transeptal chambers of Wood-Martin's plan cannot be recognized. However, the area where they should occur, according to Wood-Martin's plan, is now deeply covered in cairn material and the main gallery sides are not traceable at the places where the transepts would have joined them. Excavation would be required to determine whether or not a transeptal arrangement is present.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 121-122, Burrishoole, Site J (Pl.).

Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887-1888), 376-378 and Fig. 203. Reprinted in *R.S.A.I., Extra Volume for 1888-1889*, 247-249 and Fig. 203.

Westropp: *R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series, No. VI* (1905), 35-36 ("cross-shaped arrangement"). Previously published as *R.S.A.I. Guide to Sea Excursion* (1904), 35-37. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIV (1914), 301, (No. 11). *P.R.I.A.*, XXXI (1911) *Clare Island Survey* (Part 2), 3, lines 13-18 (duplicated 3, lines 34-37).

Piggott and Powell: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVII (1947), 139-140, Site C (Pl.).

de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 208-211, Site 2 (Pl. Phs.).

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 98, (MA. 20).

63. **Bal of Dookinelly.** O.S. 42: 15: 2 (61.3 cm., 11.3 cm.). "Pagan Cemetery." O.D. 50-100. F 655 070. Fig. 52. Plate 26.

Court Cairn

The monument stands on wet peaty land on a low flat ridge extending from the base of Slievemore Mountain. Some 150 yards to the south the land gives way to the low flat boglands around Keel Lough. Though not on the crown of the ridge the site, nevertheless, commands an extensive view. The monument, which is in a ruined condition, is best described in three parts: a rectangular enclosure at the north-west; a segmented gallery; two rows of stones running south-west from the gallery.

The enclosure forms a rough square, 4.50 m. by 4.50 m. Its north side appears as a cut-away face in the peat which extends about 2.00 m. beyond the enclosure to the east. Several stones, some of which are set, appear along this line, the largest being just over 1.00 m. in maximum dimension and lying outside the square to the east. Some small embedded stones represent the west side. On the south side the top of a thin slab, 1.20 m. long, protrudes scarcely .10 m. above the surface. A large prostrate slab, partially hidden, and about 1.20 m. in maximum dimension, may represent the continuation of the line of this side. The east side of the enclosure is formed of three slabs (shown on plan with broken hatching) each about .50 m. high. A number of loose stones lie within the enclosure.

This enclosure may well be the remains of a small hut. However, the three stones which form the eastern side are roughly in line with the western side of the gallery and might perhaps represent its continuation. On the other hand the gap in the line (.90 m.

wide) looks suspiciously like a door and it would not be safe to consider these three stones as part of the original design of the tomb.

The remains of the gallery begin approximately 2.50 m. south of the enclosure. It appears to have been at least 5.50 m. long. The presence of at least two chambers is clear. Two set slabs represent the west side of the more northern chamber. The first, which leans towards the west, is .55 m. high and the other, to the south of it, is an erect stone 1.05 m. high. The east side of the chamber consists of two set slabs. The northern is 1.05 m. high and the southern, which leans heavily to the west, is 1.25 m. high. A prostrate slab, 1.30 m. in maximum dimension, lying north of these may be a displaced orthostat. In the chamber area is a prostrate slab 1.25 m. in maximum dimension. Its original function is uncertain.

The division between the chambers consists of two jambs with a very high septal stone running across them to the south. The western jamb is 1.15 m. high. Its western end is inset in the chamber sides. The eastern jamb is 1.05 m. high. It leans to the west. The septal stone is 1.00 m. high. The gap between the jambs at the top of the septal stone is at present scarcely .15 m. Owing to the inward lean of the eastern jamb it is difficult to estimate accurately the original distance between the jambs but a gap of about .50 m. seems probable.

The east side of the southern chamber is missing. The walling of the west side consists of four slabs. Though at present these form a doubled wall it is possible that the slabs at the west may be slipped corbels. The slabs rise about .80 m. above the present level of the chamber floor, the outer pair being slightly higher than the inner. The south end of the chamber is formed of one fine stone .65 m. high. Beside it, to the east, is a large block, .50 m. high, which does not seem to be set. Its function, if any, is not clear.

Running south-west from the south-west corner of the gallery is a row of stones, some of which are quite large rising .50 m. to 1.00 m. above the ground. The row is double at parts. About 3.00 m. beyond the end of this row, to the south-west, is a solitary set slab .75 m. high. Almost parallel with the row above described and about 2.50 m. to the south is a second row of stones. Most of the stones here are less than .50 m. high. One very large slab near the eastern end of the row is 1.10 m. high. We are at a loss to explain these two rows of stones. They are not likely to be an original feature of the monument.

Much of the nature of the monument must remain doubtful pending further investigation but the segmentation of the gallery by jambs and septal stone is strongly suggestive of connection with the Court Cairn class.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 122, Burrishoole, Site D.

Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887-1888), 372 and Fig. 195. Reprinted in *R.S.A.I. Extra Volume for 1888-1889*, 244 and Fig. 195.

Westropp: *R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series, No. VI* (1905), 35 ("T or H-shaped"). Previously published as *R.S.A.I. Guide to Sea Excursion* (1904), 35-37. [N.B.—The monument described *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIV (1914), 300-301, (No. 4), is not the present site but that named "Clochan-na-stooka" in Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887-1888), 371 and Fig. 192, which is not accepted by us as a genuine megalithic tomb.]

P.R.I.A., XXXI (1911), *Clare Island Survey*, Part 2, 2-3.

Piggott and Powell: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVII (1947), 140, Site F (Pl.).

de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 214-216, Site 4 (Pl. Phs.).

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 98, (MA. 22).

O.S.L., 14/E.28, 341, (No. 4).

64. Doogort West. O.S. 42: 15: 2 (58.0 cm., 13.9 cm.). "Giant's Grave." O.D. 100-200. F 652 073. Fig. 53. Plate 26.

Portal Dolmen

The monument lies immediately south of the old road leading to Slievemore village. It stands at the upper edge of the arable land on the lower slopes of Slievemore. To the north the land gives way to a tract of summer pasturage beyond which the steeper slopes of the mountain commence. A small stream runs down the hillside to a point just north of the monument and becomes diverted along the line of the old road.

The tomb is very damaged. It consists of the ruins of a chamber orientated roughly N-S. The grass-grown remains of a cairn are present at the east side of the chamber. Three fences join at the tomb. The first is the southern boundary of the old road and it runs east-west across the northern edge of the cairn. The second, which incorporates the west side of the chamber, runs north-south to meet the first. The remnants of the third fence can be traced running from the west to join the second fence 6.00 m. south of the road fence.

Two slabs forming the west side of the chamber remain in situ. The northern is a fine tall portal stone 2.30 m. high. It leans slightly to the east. It tapers from 1.30 m. long at the base to .25 m. at the top. The second slab, which forms the main part of the chamber side, overlaps the portal stone slightly at the west. It is 1.75 m. high. The top edge is thin and slopes fairly regularly from north down to south. It leans rather more heavily eastwards than the portal stone, which it almost touches. Leaning against the east side of this slab is a stone 1.90 m. high. It too tapers, from 1.00 m. long at the base to .35 m. near the top. It may not be in situ, but its shape suggests that it may have formed a pair with the portal stone. It would seem, however, too low, unless it has lost part of its base. If it is, in fact, a portal stone it seems to be considerably out of position. About 1.20 m. south of the last and running askew to the main axis of the chamber, as indicated by the western side, is a set stone, .60 m. high, leaning heavily to the north-west. Its top edge is irregular and appears to have been damaged. The function of this stone is not altogether certain but it may well be the backstone of the chamber.

2.50 m. east of the portal stone the base of a set slab protrudes .25 m. from the ground. Its function is not clear. It can scarcely be the base of a portal stone as the gap of 2.50 m. between it and the surviving portal would be unusually wide. Just east of this is a slab 1.15 m. high which leans heavily to the east. Its edges are rounded. It is probably the stone referred to by O'Donovan of which "an impious miller commenced to make a millstone." Its original function is unknown.

A large prostrate stone lying on the cairn at the south-east is very probably the displaced roofstone. It is 2.75 m. in maximum dimension. Its north-west edge shows a clean break which looks comparatively recent. We were informed locally that the slab was fractured by the lighting of a bonfire upon it and that the detached portion was used as a lintel in a nearby house. The stone is .45 m. thick at its north-east corner, and tapers to .20 m.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 121, Burrishoole, Site A.

Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887-1888), 369-370 and Figs. 189, 190. Reprinted in *R.S.A.I. Extra Volume for 1888-1889*, 240-241 and Figs. 189, 190.

Westropp: *R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Handbook Series, No. VI*, (1905), 34, ("First") and Fig. p. 35. Previously published as *R.S.A.I. Guide to Sea Excursion* (1904), 35-37. *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIV (1914), 300, (No. 1) *P.R.I.A.*, XXXI (1911), *Clare Island Survey*, (Part 2), 3, lines 6-13.

Piggott and Powell: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVII (1947), 140, Site D.

de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 211-214, Site 3 (Pl. Phs.).

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 67.

O.S.L., 14/E.28, 342 (No. 5).

65. Drumsleed. O.S. 43: 4: 3 (86.2 cm., 55.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. F 780 114. Fig. 7. Plate 26.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on a broad rounded hill rising from a wide bogland. The sea-coast is visible one and a half miles to the west and inland the skyline is formed by a wide arc of the west Mayo mountains. The tomb lies about 100 yards south-east of the summit of the hill. The land on the hill is arable and pasture.

The tomb is poorly preserved. Two orthostats seem to represent the north side of a chamber. The more easterly of these is .80 m. high and the other .90 m. high. Running across the western end of the last is a stone 2.05 m. long, at least .90 m. broad and .15 m. thick. It rests on edge, leaning heavily eastwards, but does not appear to be set.

It may be a collapsed roofstone or less probably a slab closing the west end of the chamber. Immediately north of it is an erect stone, 1.05 m. high, which may be an outer-wall stone. One long stone, 2.25 m. south of the line of the two sidestones above described, is .35 m. high and may be a sidestone of the southern side of the chamber. East of it the edge of a stone, .25 m. high, protrudes. It is probably not structural. Immediately west of the north end of the stone running across the western end of the chamber is a small block which is probably not in situ. The structure stands in a small, more or less circular mound some 8.00 m. in diameter and rising to a maximum height of .50 m. above the surrounding ground level.

The site must be left unclassified but the extant remains suggest that it may well be a small Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

The monument above described is referred to as "the Stakes at Drumslide" in a published list of the Photographic Collection of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland. About 250 yards eastwards down the slope a group of four large blocks, 1.50 m. to 2.75 m. in maximum dimension, lie more or less on edge. These are referred to as the "Drumsled dolmen" in the same list. They are not regarded locally as an antiquity and cannot be accepted as the remains of a megalithic tomb.

J.R.S.A.I., XLVIII (1918), 100 (Photographic Collection).

66. *Lettera*. O.S. 44: 5: 6 (20.0 cm., 34.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. F 807 091. Fig. 54. Plate 27.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument which lies somewhat more than a mile north-north-east of the tombs in Castlehill townland is situated almost 300 yards east of the road from Mullaranny to Belmullet. The tomb stands in a grassy field, sloping from north-east down to south-west, surrounded on all sides by boggy ground. To the south-west there is a fine view of Achill Island and the Corraun peninsula.

The monument consists of a narrow gallery orientated roughly NE-SW. The eastern portion, which measures .90 m. wide and 1.70 m. long, is relatively well-preserved and is covered by a roofstone, apparently somewhat displaced. The extent of the gallery westwards is uncertain, though the presence of heavy stones suggests that further structure existed here. Some traces of mound are visible around the gallery but old cultivation ridges on the field leave the edge ill-defined, especially at the east. Here the ground level is higher than elsewhere, possibly due to soil-slip down the slope accumulating against the eastern end of the tomb.

One stone is visible on the north side of the chamber. It leans heavily inwards and if erect would be .55 m. high. Its eastern end is concealed but it is at least .65 m. long. The more southerly sidestone at the opposite side is .75 m. high and the second sidestone here is .30 m. high. The eastern end of the chamber is closed by a single stone. The northern end of this stone is hidden but it is at least .55 m. long and is .25 m. high. Close to its northern end a small stone .05 m. high is exposed. It is possible that this is portion of an almost concealed sidestone. The roofstone is 1.55 m. by .90 m. and .25 m. thick. It rests on the sidestones at the southern side of the chamber and at the west on a stone, .40 m. long, .15 m. thick and .40 m. high, which does not appear to be an original feature of the monument.

In front of the gallery is an erect stone (hatched on plan) .45 m. high. Its function is not clear. Immediately east of this is a prostrate stone, 1.50 m. by .85 m., which may be a displaced roofstone. Beyond this, towards the south, the tops of three smaller prostrate stones are exposed.

67. *Castlehill*. O.S. 44: 9: 5 (11.1 cm., 17.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100. F 797 074. Fig. 54. Plate 27.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The two monuments in Castlehill townland, Ma. 67 and Ma. 68, stand approximately 200 yards apart on flat pasture land about a half-mile north-west of Holy Trinity

Church on the Mullaranny-Belmullet road. Some fifty yards westwards from the tombs the rough pasture gives way to boggy land which rises gently to a low ridge and then falls away to a sandy inlet of the sea less than half a mile distant. Gortbrack mountain is visible towards the north and to the west and south the mountains of Achill and the Corraun peninsula form the skyline.

This, the more northerly of the two tombs, is very ruined. It consists of a very small gallery orientated roughly NE-SW. The structure is somewhat concealed by three slabs which cover the greater part of the chamber. A mound, about 6.00 m. in diameter and .50 m. high, surrounds the tomb.

Two orthostats of the southern side of the gallery remain. That at the east is 1.20 m. long, .40 m. thick and .50 m. high. Outside this the surfaces of some small flat stones are exposed. Beyond these is an almost prostrate stone leaning heavily northwards. It is .60 m. long, .15 m. thick and if erect would be .30 m. high. Its function is uncertain. The second sidestone is 1.10 m. long, .25 m. thick and .50 m. high. Crossing its western end is a stone .80 m. long, .20 m. thick and .50 m. high. Though it does not appear to be deeply set in the ground it may be in situ. Two sidestones at the eastern end of the opposite side of the gallery are almost concealed under the three large recumbent slabs. The more easterly sidestone is .20 m. high and the other is .35 m. high. Beyond these, towards the west is an erect stone, 1.10 m. long, .40 m. thick and .55 m. high, which may be a third sidestone. Immediately outside it is a small set stone, .40 m. high, which may have been associated with an outer-walling. The dimensions of the three slabs overlying the eastern end of the chamber are, from east to west respectively: 1.30 m. by 1.00 m. and .20 m. thick; 1.00 m. by .70 m. and .20 m. thick; 1.30 m. by 1.00 m. and .30 m. thick. They are probably roofstones, somewhat displaced.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179.

68. **Castlehill.** O.S. 44: 9: 5 (12.1 cm., 16.7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100. F 798 073. Fig. 55. Plate 27.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This is the more southerly of the two tombs in Castlehill townland. It consists of a short gallery, orientated roughly NE-SW, flanked at each side by a close-set outer-wall. The area between the two lines of outer-wall is filled almost to the level of a roofstone which seems to be in situ. There are some low remains of a mound but this is difficult to define, except at the east. A road-fence crosses beyond the tomb 2.00 m. to the west.

The gallery is largely concealed in fill. The sidestone exposed on the north side is 1.25 m. long, .15 m. thick and .85 m. high. On the opposite side only one sidestone is visible but another may be concealed at the east. This stone is at least 1.00 m. long, .10 m. thick and .80 m. high. A partly concealed stone at the east end of the gallery seems to be the backstone. It is at least 1.00 m. long, .20 m. thick and .80 m. high. The roofstone, which rests on the backstone and on the fill in the chamber, is 1.60 m. by 1.60 m. and is .30 m. thick.

The outer-walling along the sides converges rather sharply on the north-east end of the gallery and extends 1.20 m. beyond it. Along the southern side it consists of a line of three stones set end to end. The dimensions of these from east to west are, respectively: 1.10 m. long, .30 m. thick and .70 m. high; .75 m. long, .20 m. thick and .80 m. high; 1.15 m. long, .35 m. thick and 1.00 m. high. Between the last of these and the gallery side is a small set stone .40 m. long, .10 m. thick and .35 m. high. The more westerly stone of the outer-wall on the opposite side is 1.60 m. long, .50 m. thick and 1.25 m. high. 1.00 m. east of this another stone, 1.10 m. long, .20 m. thick and 1.15 m. high, probably also belongs to the outer-wall.¹ A collapsed stone at the edge of the mound at the east may be part of the east end of the outer-wall. It is 1.30 m. long and .20 m. thick. It is very concealed and its original height cannot be ascertained.

The gallery was about 1.25 m. wide towards its eastern end. Its original length cannot be determined as part of the west end may have been removed.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179.

1. A note by Professor M. J. O'Kelly to a sketch plan made by him some twenty years ago states that a third stone which stood between the two stones of the northern outer-wall had been removed some years previously.

69. **Ballyduffy.** O.S. 47: 2: 3 (39.2 cm., 58.0 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200.
G 120 III. Fig. 15. Plate 28.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on gently rolling land some two miles west of Lough Conn. The view to the south is dominated by Nephin Mountain. The land in the vicinity of the tomb is mostly under meadow and pasture and supports some trees. The site itself is overgrown with sloe bushes.

The monument is very ruined and has been interfered with by fence-building. The long axis runs roughly W-E. At the west are the scant remains of a court which leads to a ruined gallery. The gallery runs into a stone fence built along the southern side of the monument. This fence meets another running at right angles to it some 4.50 m. beyond the west end of the court. The court and gallery are at the western end of a long grass-grown cairn which rises to a height of 1.00 m. The north side and east end have well defined edges but this is probably due to cultivation. The south side and west end are obscured by the fences and heavy overgrowth. No traces of the cairn are apparent beyond the fence at the west. At the south the overgrowth and spill from the fence make definition of the edge impossible. There is a considerable amount of loose stone (not on plan) beyond the fence at the south-east corner of the cairn which is probably due to dumping and spill from the fence. Three stones (hatched on plan) set roughly in line, 3.00 m. to 4.00 m. inside the present north edge of the cairn, may be kerb stones in position. These are up to .40 m. high. The cairn which is now about 31.00 m. long may have been trapezoidal in shape. It is at least 14.00 m. wide at the west and at least 10.00 m. wide at the east.

Two large stones, at the west end of the monument, may represent a facade or forecourt. That at the north leans heavily to the west. It would be 1.00 m. high if erect. The second stone lies 3.00 m. to the south and is now prostrate. It is at least 1.00 m. in maximum dimension. The western end only of the court can be traced and is represented by four orthostats. The more westerly of these is a fine stone, 1.10 m. high, and may mark the entrance to the court. The others are very small but may be the tops of larger stones. That at the south is .35 m. high and the other two are each .15 m. high. The continuation of the line of the north side of the court may be indicated by two small low stones but these are not certainly courtstones in situ. The court is about 8.50 m. long (E-W) and was probably oval in shape.

The entrance to the gallery is .85 m. wide. At the north is a large flat-topped jamb .65 m. high. The opposite side of the entrance is formed of two stones, one set immediately behind the other. The stone at the west is .75 m. high and the second stone is about .10 m. lower. Part of the northern side is all that can be seen of the gallery. Three stones set in line 2.30 m. from the entrance are sidestones. These are deeply buried in the cairn. Their heights from west to east respectively are: .30 m., .10 m. and .20 m. At the end of this line and set transversely to it is a stone, .50 m. high, which may mark a segmentation of the gallery though it protrudes rather outside than inside the line of the sidestones. The gallery was at least 5.70 m. long. Its width or the number of chambers it contained cannot be determined. In several places small groups of stones are exposed on the surface of the cairn but none of these appear to be structural.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 138, (MA. 32).

70. **Lissaniska West.** O.S. 48: 7: 6 (64.7 cm., 34.9 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300.
G 244 084. Fig. 56. Plate 28.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on the lower slopes of the northern end of a ridge north-east of the junction of Lough Conn and Lough Cullin. It stands on a small patch of cultivated land about 200 yards north of the rough stony land forming the top of the ridge. The site commands an extensive view northwards across the plain of the River Moy.

The monument is in a poor state of preservation. It consists of the ruins of a gallery incorporated in a mound some 10.00 m. long, 4.50 m. in average width and up to 1.25 m. high. At the west are several orthostats forming a short portico which is separated from the remainder of the gallery by a high septal stone. The main chamber can be traced eastwards from the portico for a distance of 2.50 m., beyond which it is concealed in the mound which, at this point, is covered by bushes. A fence runs north-south at the east end of the mound and there are no indications that the monument extended beyond the fence.

The southern side of the portico consists of a stone, 1.80 m. long, .25 m. thick and 1.20 m. high, which leans to the north. Opposite this is a low stone 1.75 m. long, .25 m. thick and .60 m. high. The function of this stone is not clear. It seems too low, in relation to the stone at the south, to be the north side of the portico. It may be that the north side of the portico is missing and that this stone formed a doubling of the side. At the entrance is a tall stone, .95 m. long, .30 m. thick and 1.30 m. high, which leans to the north. It seems to have formed part of an entry feature the design of which is not clear. In front of this an erect stone, 1.00 m. long and .50 m. high, may not be in situ. Adjoining this, at the north, is a stone, .65 m. long and .50 m. high, which may be a packing stone.

The septal stone leans towards the east. It is 1.50 m. long, .15 m. thick and, though only .85 m. of its height is exposed, is about equal in height to the portico side at the south. Behind this slab, at the south, and .20 m. lower than it, is an erect stone, .70 m. long and .20 m. thick, which does not seem to be in situ.

The greater part of the north side of the main chamber is represented by a stone, 2.00 m. long, which leans heavily to the south. If erect, it would be about .20 m. lower than the septal stone. This is matched at the opposite side by a stone which leans heavily to the north. This stone is much concealed but is at least 2.40 m. long and, if erect, would be about equal in height to the sidestone at the north. Resting against this stone, at the east, is a slab which may have formed a doubling of the gallery side. The top only of this stone is exposed. It is at least 1.00 m. in maximum dimension. In a corresponding position at the north is an erect stone, .70 m. long and .25 m. thick, which is about .40 m. lower than the adjoining sidestone. It too may be a doubling of the gallery wall. Two displaced stones, 1.10 m. and 1.20 m. in maximum dimension, respectively, lie on the north side of the mound and a displaced stone, at least 1.00 m. in maximum dimension, is exposed at the edge of the mound at the south.

The tomb cannot be classified with certainty but the remains are not inconsistent with interpretation as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

71. Coolcraun. O.S. 48: 8: 1 (76.8 cm., 44.3 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed."
O.D. 50-100. G 257 094. Fig. 22. Plate 28.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on the lands of Coolcraun estate, about 300 yards east of the Ballina-Foxford road. It stands at the edge of a plantation of conifers near the top of a small hill some 300 yards west of the River Moy. There are several other plantations on the estate and the river valley itself is heavily wooded. Most of the surrounding area is rolling parkland but there is some cultivation on a low ridge across the road to the west. Nephin Mountain is visible to the west and towards the east the Ox Mountains appear. To the south the high ground north-east of Balla is visible.

The monument consists of a gallery, 5.70 m. long, orientated roughly E-W, and divided into two chambers by a pair of jambs. Two courtstones flank the northern side of the entrance. There are no traces of mound around the tomb but the gallery contains a considerable amount of fill.

The entrance to the gallery, at the east, is between two jambs .70 m. apart. The jambs are well-matched stones with flat top surfaces. The northern jamb is .75 m. high and the other is .10 m. higher. Above them is a displaced lintel 1.45 m. by .80 m. and .40 m. thick. It rests on the northern jamb and the southern sidestone of the front

chamber. The courtstone nearest the entrance is equal in height to the jamb stone adjoining it. The other courtstone is 1.10 m. high.

The front chamber is 2.60 m. long. The sides each consist of single stones. That at the south leans very heavily inwards and its base is probably somewhat out of position. It is 2.30 m. in overall length, .50 m. thick and, if erect, would be 1.40 m. high. The opposite sidestone, which leans inwards, is .55 m. high. The segmenting jambs, like those at the entrance, are well-matched stones, with flat top surfaces. That at the south is .70 m. high and the other is about .15 m. lower. The gap between them is .60 m.

The second chamber is 3.10 m. long and narrows from about 2.10 m. wide at the segmenting jambs to 1.60 m. wide at the west. The north side is of two stones, each .90 m. high. Two sidestones are in position at the south and there is a gap of 1.00 m. between them from which a stone is missing. The sidestone at the west is 1.00 m. high and the other is 1.10 m. high. The stone closing the west end of the gallery leans inwards but this may be its original setting. If erect it would be 1.40 m. high. It is 1.60 m. long at the top and tapers to 1.20 m. long at the base. Two displaced stones lie within the chamber. The larger of these, immediately behind the segmentation, may be a lintel, displaced from above the jambs. It is 1.60 m. by .85 m. and .30 m. thick. The second stone is .80 m. in maximum dimension. Its original function is not known.

Four stones outside the northern side of the gallery are of uncertain function. One of these is a very large stone, 2.20 m. by 1.00 m. and .50 m. thick, and may be a displaced corbel. The others appear to be deeply embedded in the ground but these may also be displaced. A loose stone, .70 m. in maximum dimension, lies outside the southern side of the gallery.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 97, (MA. 17), (Pl.).

72. Prebaun. O.S. 49: 11: 5 (57.2 cm., 16.1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. G 133 306. Fig. 54. Plate 29.

Unclassified

The monument is situated on a tract of elevated moorland at the south-west end of the Ox Mountains overlooking the valley of the Yellow River. The Ox Mountains form the skyline from the west around to the north-east. Towards the west beyond Lough Conn, Nephin and the Nephin Beg mountains are visible. To the south there is an extensive view across the lowlands of the River Moy. The land in the vicinity of the site is rough pasture with cropping rock and some scattered erratic boulders.

The monument consists of a small chamber of marked trapezoidal shape orientated roughly E-W. The chamber is 2.45 m. long and narrows from 2.20 m. wide at the west to 1.60 m. wide at the east. The east end consists of three stones forming a jamb and sill arrangement. The jambs are set longitudinally and the sill stands between them at the east. The space between the jambs narrows from 1.20 m. at the west to .70 m. at the east. The northern jamb is .85 m. high and the southern .65 m. high. The sill, which leans inwards, is .35 m. high. The south side of the chamber consists of three orthostats. The heights of these from east to west respectively, are: .45 m., .30 m. and .25 m. The opposite side of the chamber is also of three stones. The more easterly of these is almost entirely concealed in the ground. It is at least .45 m. long. The stone next to it leans very heavily inwards and is almost prostrate. If erect it would be about .45 m. high. The third sidestone is .50 m. high. At the west end of the chamber is a fine stone, 1.55 m. long and .60 m. high, which looks like a backstone but does not fully bridge the gap between the sides. The short space at its north end is closed by an orthostat .35 m. high. In the gap at the south is a much concealed stone at least .40 m. long and .10 m. high. .50 m. beyond the east end of the chamber is an erect stone .25 m. high. Its function is not clear. A displaced stone of unknown function lies 1.50 m. south of the west end of the chamber. It is at least .75 m. in maximum dimension. The structure is surrounded by traces of a mound of irregular outline. It is about 9.00 m. long (E-W), 7.00 m. in greatest width (N-S) and up to .50 m. high.

The tomb cannot be classified with certainty but the jamb and sill arrangement at the east suggests affinities with the Court Cairn class and indeed the whole design is reminiscent of the subsidiary chambers in tombs of this class.

73. Doonty. O.S. 49: 12: 2 (77.5 cm., 24.4 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 500-600. G 355 071. Fig. 57. Plate 30.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a cultivated field on the south-western foothills of the Ox Mountains. The area is studded with numerous hillocks many of which are denuded on top, exposing the underlying rock. The land in the vicinity is used for pasture and tillage. Small trees grow around many of the farmhouses. The outlook from the site is restricted by rising ground except towards the south-east where the plain of the River Moy is visible.

The monument consists of a gallery, at least 5.50 m. long, orientated roughly NE-SW. It is surrounded by a U-shaped outer-wall, the greater part of which has collapsed outwards. All the outer-wall stones are much concealed. The roughly oval-shaped cairn is about 13.50 m. long (E-W) and 9.50 m. in greatest width (N-S). Its average height is about 1.50 m. The O.S. 6" map shows part of an apparently circular platform immediately east of the monument but the field is now ploughed and this is no longer visible.

Only six sidestones of the gallery are exposed but others may be concealed in the cairn. The more westerly stone of the two stones at the north side of the gallery is erect and is .85 m. high. The second stone is set slightly outside the line of the first and leans heavily inwards. If erect it would be .70 m. high. The more westerly stone of the southern side of the gallery is set somewhat outside the line of the other three sidestones on this side and leans inwards. It is .50 m. high. The next sidestone is erect and is .40 m. high. The third stone which is almost concealed is .25 m. high and the fourth sidestone is also .25 m. high.

The five outer-wall stones along the north side have all collapsed outwards. The more westerly stone would be .60 m. high if erect and the others would seem, in general, to have decreased in height from west to east. At the east are three stones which seem to mark that end of the outer-walling. Two of these, which are very small, are .25 m. and .35 m. high, respectively. The third stone, .45 m. high, at the north, seems to be part of a much larger stone. Along the south side of the tomb are four stones of the outer-wall which have collapsed outwards. Adjoining the more westerly stone of the south side of the gallery, an erect stone, .80 m. high, may represent a facade. South of this are two small partly concealed stones which may also be part of the facade or outer-wall. North of the entrance a stone, .85 m. by .70 m. and .65 m. high, may be another facade stone.

74. Cartronmacmanus. O.S. 49: 12: 2 (82.3 cm., 27.8 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 500-600. G 360 074. Fig. 38. Plate 29.

Court Cairn

The monument stands on rough rushy pasture land near the south-west end of the Ox Mountains. The site commands an extensive view southwards across the basin of the River Moy.

Though the monument is somewhat damaged its principal features are clear. A gallery, some 6.00 m. long, is divided into two chambers by a pair of jambs and, opening into each chamber, at the north, is a small side-chamber. The entire south side of the gallery appears to be missing but some fill in the western chamber may conceal a sidestone. The gallery is preceded at the east by a broad court. Some slight traces of mound are visible at the north end of the court and at the south-west corner of the gallery. A fence, running north-south, passes close to the monument at the east, and incorporates several large stones which may have been taken from the tomb.

Eleven courtstones form a broad, shallow arc in front of the gallery. These bound an area 8.00 m. wide north-south and 3.00 m. east-west. The two highest courtstones, each 1.50 m. high, serve as entrance jambs to the gallery. These are well-matched flat-topped slabs set .50 m. apart. The heights of the courtstones at the north, from the

entrance outwards, are: 1.20 m., 1.25 m., .50 m., .60 m. and .60 m. At the south the heights of the courtstones, from the gallery outwards, are: .25 m., .10 m., .40 m. and .25 m. East of the court orthostats are two small set stones and several mossy hummocks—perhaps concealing stones—which suggest that the court may have been fully enclosed. One of these stones, towards the south, is .35 m. high. The other is almost concealed but is at least .45 m. long. Lying within the court is a large stone, 2.70 m. by 1.40 m. and .40 m. thick, which may be a displaced roofstone or lintel.

The front chamber of the gallery is 3.30 m. long. The north side between the side-chamber and the court, consists of a fine stone 1.35 m. high. Outside this is a stone, .60 m. high, which appears to be a doubling of the chamber side. The side of the chamber was completed by two stones, set about .40 m. apart and giving access to the side-chamber. The more easterly of these has fallen into the gallery but its base may be approximately in situ. If erect it would be about 1.50 m. high. The other sidestone is 1.20 m. high.

The side-chamber opening into the front chamber of the gallery is about 1.10 m. wide east-west and .80 m. north-south. The east and west sides, which consist of single stones, are set skew to the long axis of the gallery. The western sidestone is 1.00 m. high and the eastern 1.20 m. high. The backstone, which is set outside the ends of the sidestones, is .50 m. high.

The segmenting jambs of the gallery are well-matched stones. They are .45 m. apart at ground level but this distance increases to .95 m. at the top. Both are 1.20 m. high. Continuing the line of the southern jamb to the south, is a stone 1.90 m. long and .60 m. high. The function of this stone is not clear. It may indicate the presence of a side-chamber or chambers similar to those at the opposite side, but though it seems to be well set it may not be in situ.

The second chamber of the main gallery is almost 2.00 m. long. Its north side consists of two stones which also serve as jambs giving access to the side-chamber. The more easterly stone is .45 m. high and the other is .30 m. high. The backstone of the gallery is .75 m. high. It is partly concealed by a large slab, probably a displaced roofstone, resting on its southern end. This slab is 2.10 m. by 1.65 m. and .40 m. thick. The ground under this stone and to the east of it is somewhat higher than the general level within the tomb and it is quite possible that structure lies concealed here. A large displaced block, 1.10 m. by .70 m. by .60 m. (not on plan), lies at the western edge of the displaced roofstone.

The side-chamber opening from the north side of the rear chamber of the gallery is 1.00 m. long and narrows from 1.40 m. wide at the entrance to 1.20 m. at the back. The sides and back each consist of single stones. The eastern sidestone is .50 m. high and the opposite sidestone is .60 m. high. The backstone, which is .40 m. high, is set outside the end of the western sidestone. The eastern sidestone does not reach to the backstone and there is a gap of about .30 m. between them.

Despite destruction and probable concealment along the south side of the gallery the design of the north side and the length of the backstone clearly suggest that the gallery proper consisted of a broad front chamber and a narrower rear chamber. It is not improbable that side-chambers, similar to those at the north, opened off the south side.

Aldridge: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXVI (1956), 104-106 (Pl.).
de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 97, (MA. 19), (Pl.).

75. Creggaun. O.S. 49: 12: 6 (91.9 cm., 22.3 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400.
G 137 307. Fig. 57. Plate 30.

Unclassified

The monument, which lies about 300 yards north-north-east of Killasser House, is situated on rather level ground on the lower slopes of the Ox Mountains. The land in the vicinity has recently been improved and is used mainly for pasture and meadow

though some tillage is undertaken. There is an extensive view southwards across the lowlands of the River Moy but elsewhere the outlook is restricted by rising ground.

The monument is very ruined and is overgrown with bushes. It consists of the remains of a gallery, orientated roughly NE-SW, surrounded by a mound or irregular outline but approximately trapezoidal in shape. The present edges of the mound are probably the result of cultivation but at the south there seems to have been greater interference and here the side of the mound rises sharply and is up to 2.00 m. high. Elsewhere the general height of the mound above the surrounding field is about 1.00 m. The mound is 14.50 m. long NE-SW, 11.00 m. wide near the NE and 7.00 m. wide near the SW.

The entrance to the gallery is between two jambs, .30 m. apart. The jamb at the north is .55 m. high and the other, which leans outwards, would be 1.10 m. high if erect. Adjoining the northern jamb, and leaning heavily outwards, is a stone which may be a courtstone or perhaps part of a facade. It would be .70 m. high if erect. The northern side of the gallery is represented by an irregular line of four stones extending for a distance of about 4.00 m. south-west of the entrance. The heights of these, from east to west, respectively, are: .30 m., .40 m., .50 m. and .30 m. Some 4.50 m. beyond this line towards the south-west is a set stone, .25 m. high, of unknown function. One small set stone, .20 m. high, immediately behind the jamb is all that is apparent of the opposite side of the gallery. 3.00 m. south-west of this is a prostrate stone .90 m. in maximum dimension. Along the northern edge of the mound are three prostrate stones each about 1.00 m. in maximum dimension.

The tomb cannot be classified on present evidence but the jamb entry and the eastern orientation suggest that it may well be of the Court Cairn class.

76. Coollagagh. O.S. 49: 14: 2 (32.8 cm., 9.9 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. G 308 056. Fig. 18. Plate 30.

Court Cairn

The monument stands in a sheltered position in the valley of the Yellow River at the south-west end of the Ox Mountains. The soil in the valley is thin and the rock outcrops frequently. The land in general is under pasture and meadow but some cultivation is undertaken. The higher ground is used for rough grazing. Trees grow around many of the farmhouses.

The monument has suffered some damage since 1837 when a sketch plan was made of it by the Ordnance Survey. The long axis of the monument is approximately E-W. The sketch plan shows, at the east, an almost circular court bounded by thirteen stones. The maximum width of the court from north to south is given as 24 ft. (7.30 m. approx.). A gallery is shown running westwards from the court for a distance given as 19 ft. (5.80 m. approx.). The west end of the gallery was open. Within the gallery and 8 ft. (2.45 m. approx.) from its west end were two stones which appear to be segmenting jambs. Immediately east of these was a long stone which perhaps suggests a displaced lintel. Towards the middle of the front chamber was another stone, apparently displaced.

The monument is now almost entirely overgrown and is used as a dump for field rubbish. The greater part of the gallery structure shown on the sketch plan is concealed. A fence crosses the position of the gallery in a north-south direction about 2.50 m. west of the court. Seven courtstones, embedded in the fence, are in position and form a neat arc immediately in front of the gallery. Two of these act also as jambs and form an entrance, .45 m. wide. The northern jamb is .70 m. high and the southern .85 m. high. The heights of the three courtstones south of the entry, from north to south, respectively, are: 1.00 m., .80 m. and .60 m. The courtstone adjoining the northern entrance stone is .95 m. high and the stone beside it is .85 m. high. The field in front of the court is very level and appears to have been cleared in recent times to form a lawn for the nearby house. The tops of two low stones are exposed some 2.50 m. east of the end of the southern arm of the court. Their relationship, if any, with the monument is not clear.

Two gallery sidestones are visible immediately west of the court. That at the

south is almost completely concealed by debris. The other is .50 m. high. A large stone, .50 m. high, protruding from the west face of the fence, may be another sidestone but is set somewhat skew to the long axis of the gallery. Immediately south of this stone is a large partly concealed boulder (not on plan).

Some mound stretches for a distance of about 10.00 m. west of the court but it is difficult to distinguish actual cairn remains from dump material. The edge of the south-western corner of the mound is obscured by bushes and heavy loose boulders.

Comparison of the present plan with the sketch plan from the O.S. Name Book shows that the older plan cannot be taken as indicating the precise positions of the courtstones. While the presence of the six extra courtstones, as shown on the sketch plan, strongly suggests that the court was a full-court too much reliance cannot be placed on the shape. Furthermore, the possibility that some of the extra stones may not have been in situ should be taken into account. A full-court design remains therefore probable but cannot be accepted as demonstrated with certainty.

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 97, (MA. 18), (Pl. p. 19). *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 195.
O.S. Name Book (1837), Parish of Killasser, Book 2 (Pl.).

77. Drumgollagh. O.S. 56: 1: 2 (12.8 cm., 54.3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200.
F 797 049. Fig. 59. Plate 31.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on the western side of a long low ridge about $\frac{2}{3}$ mile north-east of Claggan (Ma. 78). The ridge which runs north-south and meets inlets of the sea at either end, is an isolation in an area of low-lying bogland. The land on the ridge is mostly under pasture but some tillage is undertaken. The monument itself stands in a pasture field which bears traces of old cultivation ridges. From the site there is an extensive view westwards across the bog to the sea and across Annagh Island to the mountains of Achill, while to the south the mountains of the Corraun peninsula are visible. Towards the north and to the east the outlook is restricted by the rising ground of the ridge.

The monument is well preserved but had been converted in recent times into a shed. A gabled roof of sods and rough thatch was laid across the orthostats. This has now been removed but its base is still visible along the outside of the sidestones as a low bank, about .50 m. wide, resting on top of the mound.

The long axis of the tomb runs roughly SE-NW. At the more easterly end is a short ante-chamber which leads to a gallery divided into two large chambers. The division between these large chambers consists of two high jambs between which is a massive septal slab, rising to the full height of the jambs. A large roofstone covers the west end of the rear chamber. An irregular grass-grown mound surrounds the gallery. The present outline of this mound is obviously largely due to interference and gives no indication of the original shape. Shallow drains skirt the mound at the west. A fence runs about 3.00 m. behind the backstone of the gallery. No traces of mound are visible beyond the fence. A depression leading through the mound to the entrance is probably due to the modern re-use of the monument.

The ante-chamber is 1.20 m. long and 1.40 m. wide. Two stones are present on the south side. The more easterly of these is a round-topped stone .90 m. high. It seems to function as an entry jamb. The other, which is also .90 m. high, forms the side-wall of the ante-chamber. The more northerly side consists of a single stone 1.20 m. high.

The entrance to the main chambers is between two great portal stones set .70 m. apart. That at the north is roughly triangular in outline and is 1.90 m. high; the other is a pillar-like stone 1.80 m. high. The first of the main chambers is 3.50 m. long and 2.50 m. wide. The north side consists of two slabs. The more easterly of these is .70 m. high and the other .90 m. high. Two stones of the more southerly side are present. That nearest the entrance is 1.10 m. high. Its eastern end is concealed. The other sidestone is .85 m. high. A gap of .60 m. between them suggests that a sidestone has been removed.

The segmenting jambs between the two main chambers are set with the long axis parallel to the long axis of the gallery. The more northerly, which leans heavily inwards, is 1.10 m. high and the other 1.60 m. high. The great septal slab is also 1.60 m. high. The triangular space left between its vertical northern edge and the inwards slanting jamb is at present filled with dry-stone walling which cannot be considered original. If the jamb was ever erect a gap of about .40 m. would have been left between it and the septal but it is quite possible that the jamb was leaning in the original design. The jamb on the south fits flush against the straight vertical edge of the septal slab. A triangular ope, .70 m. high and .45 m. wide, is left at the bottom. The top northern corner of the septal stone curves evenly in an arc .60 m. long and .40 m. deep. The edges of this curve are smooth and there is no indication that it was artificially formed to leave an opening.

The side-walling of the rear chamber is less regularly constructed. Two stones only of the north side are present. One of these, standing .75 m. from the segmenting jamb, is erect and is 1.10 m. high. Inside it is a small stone, .30 m. high, which is apparently a packer. The second sidestone on this side adjoins the backstone. It is 1.00 m. high and leans inwards. A stone, .50 m. high, standing immediately outside it might, if original, be a support for the sidestone. Three overlapping stones are present on the more southern side. The more easterly of these is 1.10 m. high and leans heavily inwards. The other two are erect and each is .70 m. high. The great backstone is 1.20 m. high. It is set outside the ends of the sidestones and leans slightly inwards. The roofstone is 3.90 m. by 2.50 m. and .20 m. thick. It rests on the middle of the backstone, on a small stone on top of the most easterly of the sidestones on the southern side and on several small stones on top of the sidestone adjoining the backstone on the opposite side. A large slab, 3.05 m. long, .70 m. wide and .35 m. thick, lies on the mound at the south about 1.00 m. from the entrance. It is obviously displaced. It could well have served in the roofing, perhaps as a lintel.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 112. Erris No. 8.
J.R.S.A.I., XLVIII (1918), 100 (Photographic Collection).
 de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 98, (MA. 23), (Pl.).

78. Claggan. O.S. 56: 1: 5 (8.8 cm., 46.3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 50-100. F 794 040.
 Fig. 54. Plate 30.

Portal Dolmen

The monument stands in a sheltered position near the western base of Claggan hill. It is about half a mile east of the coast and the sea is visible from the site. The field in which the tomb stands bears traces of old cultivation ridges but is now invaded by the gorse which covers the greater part of Claggan hill. The land in the vicinity is now used mainly for pasture. The grounds around Rock House, a short distance to the south, are heavily wooded.

The monument is somewhat damaged but its principal features are clear. It consists of the ruins of a gallery, about 3.00 m. long, orientated roughly E-W. The entrance, at the east, is between two portal stones. Standing diagonally between these is a tall erect stone of uncertain function. The gallery sides are completed by single stones and another stone closes the west end. The gallery was covered by a massive roofstone which has slipped off the tomb to the south. There are no visible traces of mound around the structure.

The northern portal stone is erect and is 1.90 m. high. The opposite portal stone leans inwards and its base may have been forced out of position by the collapse of the roofstone. At present it is 1.45 m. high but its top may be broken away. The erect stone between the portal stones is 1.40 m. high. It could perhaps be a detached portion of the southern jamb, or perhaps less likely a door stone twisted out of position. In front of the southern portal is a long thin stone .20 m. high. It seems to be in situ but if so its function is not clear. It leans to the north.

The sidestone at the north leans inwards but this may well be its original position. It would be 1.40 m. high if erect. The opposite sidestone also leans inwards and if erect

would be 1.30 m. high. Inside this is a stone, which though it appears to be well set in the ground may not be in situ. It is .50 m. high. The backstone leans heavily inwards but this again may be its original position. It would be 1.40 m. high if erect. The roofstone rests with its heavier end on the southern side of the gallery. It is 3.75 m. (N-S) by 3.70 m. (E-W) and up to 1.00 m. in thickness.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179.

79. Callow. O.S. 61: 3: 1 (46.8 cm., 57.9 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. G 322 043. Fig. 44. Plate 32.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands in a small triangular field near the top of a long ridge about half a mile north-east of Lower Lough Callow. Rock outcrops are numerous in the area. The boulder-strewn land on the ridge is divided into a maze of small fields utilized mainly for pasture and meadow. Little tillage is undertaken in the district. The Ox Mountains form the skyline to the north-east and towards the north-west Nephin and part of the Nephin Beg range are visible.

The tomb is fairly well preserved but is overgrown with bushes. It consists of a markedly wedge-shaped gallery, orientated roughly NE-SW. A stone fence runs along the southern side of the gallery and incorporates some of the sidestones. Two stones exposed in the southern face of the fence may belong to the tomb but this is uncertain. That at the west is .50 m. high and the other is .35 m. high. A displaced roofstone covers the east end of the gallery and another displaced slab lies north-east of this. The remains of a mound, about 9.00 m. long (E-W), are present along the north side of the structure. At the east, where an old cultivation ridge runs into the mound, the outline is not clear. There are no traces of mound south of the fence.

At the west end of the gallery and crossing the line of the northern side is a stone, .80 m. high, which marks the entrance and may also serve as part of a facade. It leans outwards. The north side of the gallery consists of five stones. The more westerly of these is only .10 m. high. The sidestone next to this is .90 m. high. Inside the last and narrowing the gallery at this point is a set stone with a pointed top which seems to function as a jamb. It is 1.10 m. high. The heights of the other three sidestones from west to east, respectively, are: .75 m., .35 m. and .35 m. The south side of the gallery is represented by three stones. The heights of these from west to east, respectively, are: .90 m., .75 m. and .35 m. The backstone, which is set between the sides of the gallery, is .55 m. high. Its top is gable-shaped. The roofstone covering the east end of the gallery is at least 1.40 m. by 1.30 m. and .30 m. thick. It appears to have slipped towards the north and its northern edge is concealed in the mound. The large slab to the north-east may be another displaced roofstone. It is 1.70 m. in maximum dimension and .30 m. thick.

Near the northern edge of the mound are three collapsed stones which may, perhaps, have formed part of an outer-wall. The more westerly of these is prostrate. If erect it would be about .40 m. high. The second stone leans very heavily outwards and, if erect, would be about the same height as the last. The edge only of the third stone is exposed. North-east of this a small set stone, .30 m. high, is of uncertain function.

The gallery is about 4.00 m. long and narrows from 1.50 m. wide near the west to .90 m. wide at the east. The apparent jamb at the north side may indicate the presence of a portico, about 1.75 m. long, at the west. The heights of the sidestones indicate that the gallery was highest at the west.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 177.

80. Ballinillaun. O.S. 61: 9: 5 (13.9 cm., 15.8 cm.) Not marked. O.D. 50-100. M 129 300. Fig. 60. Plate 32.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on a ridge in rolling drumlin land at the south-west end of the Ox Mountains. The land in the vicinity is mostly under pasture and meadow

and supports some trees. The tomb itself stands on top of a natural knoll which is crowned by a grove of small trees. Northwards from the site the land falls, after about 400 yards, to a wet, rushy valley and beyond this rises to the foothills of the Ox Mountains which form the skyline to the north-east.

The monument is poorly preserved. At the east are the remains of a court which lead to a gallery, about 5.00 m. long, divided by a pair of jambs into two chambers. There is a considerable amount of mound surrounding the tomb but its extent is difficult to define. Two perimeters, one within the other, can be distinguished. The inner edge (shown on plan) is rather vague but may represent approximately the original outline of the cairn. It is about 30.00 m. long (E-W) and up to 17.00 m. in greatest width (N-S). The outer edge (not on plan) is probably due to spill from the cairn slipping down the natural knoll. Its eastern edge corresponds to that of the inner perimeter but elsewhere it extends 2.00 m. to 7.00 m. beyond the inner edge.

The court remains are scant. Two orthostats are in position at the south. The more easterly of these, which is 4.50 m. beyond the gallery, is a flat-topped stone .30 m. high. The second courtstone flanks the entrance to the gallery. Its flat top surface slopes downwards away from the entrance. It is .75 m. high. There is only one orthostat at the opposite side of the court. It leans outwards and is .40 m. high. There is a gap of 1.10 m. between it and the entrance to the gallery. The entrance is between two jambs set .65 m. apart. The southern jamb has a flat top which slopes downwards from the entrance. It is .75 m. high. The top of the opposite jamb also slopes downwards from the entrance. It is 1.25 m. high.

The front chamber of the gallery is 2.10 m. long and 2.10 m. wide. The northern side consists of a single stone. Its top edge is 1.00 m. lower than the adjoining entrance jamb. .35 m. of its height is exposed. The opposite side is of two stones. The more easterly of these forms the greater part of the side. It is .35 m. lower than the adjoining jamb and .60 m. of its height is exposed. The second stone is a small orthostat .35 m. high. The segmenting jambs are .80 m. apart. The northern jamb is .70 m. high and the southern .60 m. high. The rear chamber is 2.20 m. long. The northern side is of one thin stone .20 m. high. Its top edge is abraded and some of it may be broken away. The opposite side of the chamber is missing. The stone forming the west end of the gallery is greatly concealed. It is a long thin stone rising scarcely .10 m. above the ground. The upper portion of this stone may also be broken away.

81. Pollnagawna. O.S. 61: 14: 5 (32.9 cm., 6.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100. M 131 299. Fig. 44. Plate 32.

Court Cairn

The monument lies about one and a half miles south-east of Ballinillaun (Ma. 80). It is situated at the south-west end of a stony ridge, with much outcropping rock, which is flanked at the west, south and east by a loop of the River Moy. The ridge stands in a region studded with numerous low drumlin hills. The lower ground in the vicinity is wet and rush-grown. The land is used mainly as rough pasture and meadow but the monument is overlooked at the south-west by a long arable ridge and there is some cultivation on the higher ground north of the site.

The monument is densely overgrown. It consists of the remains of a gallery, 5.35 m. long and about 1.65 m. wide, orientated roughly E-W. The entrance, at the east, is incorporated in a field fence and immediately beyond this is a ditch. The greater part of the court is missing but two courtstones are embedded in the fence north of the entrance. A second fence runs into and incorporates part of the northern side of the gallery. There are indications of a long mound extending for a distance of 8.00 m. beyond the west end of the gallery but it is impossible to trace the perimeter because of the dense overgrowth. It would seem to be some 14.00 m. in total length and about 6.00 m. in maximum width. There are no traces of mound beyond the fence crossing the gallery entrance.

The entrance to the gallery is between two well-matched jambs, each .90 m. high, set .65 m. apart. That at the north leans heavily outwards. The southern jamb, which

leans slightly outwards, is a fine stone of rectangular outline. The courtstone adjoining the entrance, at the north, is $\cdot 50$ m. lower than the entrance jambs. $\cdot 45$ m. of its height is exposed. The second courtstone, which is $\cdot 30$ m. lower than the last, is exposed to a depth of $\cdot 35$ m. It leans slightly inwards.

Both sides of the gallery are represented by two stones. The more easterly stone of the northern side is almost concealed in the fence running into the side of the tomb. It is at least $1\cdot 20$ m. long and is $\cdot 25$ m. lower than the jambs. It is exposed to a depth of $\cdot 45$ m. The second sidestone, at the west end of the gallery, is a fine flat-topped stone but only $\cdot 15$ m. of its height is exposed. The more easterly stone of the opposite side of the gallery is about $1\cdot 70$ m. from the entrance. It leans slightly inwards. The second stone at this side is set at a slight angle to the line of the last. Both sidestones are $\cdot 60$ m. in maximum height and have broad flat top surfaces. The top of the eastern stone slopes downwards towards the entrance and the top of the other slopes downwards towards the west. The west end of the gallery is closed by a fine backstone with a gabled top. It leans slightly inwards and is $\cdot 90$ m. high. Close to the south-western corner of the gallery is a loose stone of split-boulder type which may be a displaced corbel. It is $\cdot 90$ m. in maximum dimension and $\cdot 40$ m. thick.

The number of chambers in the gallery cannot be decided with certainty but the length suggests two chambers.

82. Cuillaun. O.S. 62: 14: 3 ($43\cdot 7$ cm., $8\cdot 3$ cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. M 415 989. Fig. 35. Plate 33.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument lies about 100 yards south-west of the site marked "Giant's Grave" in the same townland (Appendix No. 16). It stands near the east end of a low ridge overlooking Killaturly Lough to the south. The low, rather wet land in the vicinity is interspersed with many small rounded hillocks and ridges. The ridge on which the tomb stands is mostly under cultivation but the higher gorse-grown land in the vicinity is used as rough pasture.

The monument is overgrown with bushes and is used as a dump for field stones. The greater part of the extant structure is concealed in an oval-shaped mound which measures $11\cdot 00$ m. long (NE-SW) and $8\cdot 00$ m. wide (NW-SE). Near the centre of the mound part of a roofstone is exposed. This is at least $1\cdot 40$ m. in maximum dimension and $\cdot 25$ m. thick. Under the roofstone, at the south-east, is a collapsed stone which may be a chamber sidestone. It is greatly concealed but is at least $\cdot 45$ m. long. A small stone, $\cdot 35$ m. in maximum dimension, is jammed between this and the roofstone. Beyond the collapsed stone is an erect stone (not on plan), which may be another sidestone. It is at least $\cdot 50$ m. long, $\cdot 40$ m. thick and $\cdot 40$ m. of its height is exposed.

Towards the south-west end of the mound an irregular line of four erect stones running north-west—south-east probably represents the facade of an outer-wall. These are all greatly concealed. Their heights, from north-west to south-east, respectively, are: $\cdot 25$ m., $\cdot 60$ m., $\cdot 45$ m. and $\cdot 55$ m. The more northerly stone of the line is split into two pieces. $\cdot 80$ m. south-east of this line is a stone which has collapsed outwards. It may be part of an outer-wall along the south-east side of the tomb. If erect it would be $\cdot 55$ m. high. About $2\cdot 30$ m. north-east of this is a set stone, $\cdot 25$ m. high, which may be another stone of the outer-wall. Its north-east end is concealed. Some $3\cdot 00$ m. beyond this, in the same direction, an almost prostrate stone, may be another outer-wall stone. It would be about $\cdot 35$ m. high if erect. Near the north-west edge of the mound a stone, now leaning heavily outwards, may represent outer-walling on that side. If erect it would be $\cdot 30$ m. high.

Though in its present condition the tomb cannot be classified with certainty it is probably a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave and an interpretation as such would be consistent with the exposed structure.

83. **Knockshanbally.** O.S. 70: 4: 4 (73.4 cm., 51.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100. M 251 973. Fig. 45. Plate 33.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The site lies about half a mile west of Strade village just west of a low ridge in a region of rounded hills and rolling grassland. Most of the land in the vicinity is utilized for pasture but some tillage is undertaken. The view is restricted by nearby ridges but towards the north-east the Ox Mountains appear and away to the south-east the high ground north of Balla is visible.

The site is much obscured by the dumping of field stones. It appears as a low mound of irregular oblong outline 12.00 m. long, 7.00 m. broad near the west and 5.00 m. near the east. Around the edge of this runs a shallow depression, .20 m. deep and .30 m. to .90 m. wide, outside of which is a low bank upwards of .40 m. high and .50 m. to 1.50 m. wide. This depression and bank are not original features and were constructed after the examination of the site by Mr. E. Rynne some years ago, to delimit the monument which was at the time in danger of destruction.

The dumping of field-stones, which has apparently continued since Rynne's sketch plan was made, has greatly obscured the site and several stones appearing on his plan are no longer visible and small portions only of others are exposed. Exact correlation of the sketch plan and the plan here published is not possible. Two stones roughly aligned E-W, shown hatched on the plan, seem to represent the northern side of a gallery. That to the east is .60 m. long, .30 m. thick and .20 m. high. The other measures 1.00 m. long and .25 m. high. Its northern side is concealed. Just .50 m. west of this the edge of a prostrate slab, 1.00 m. long, .10 m. thick and at least .70 m. wide, is visible. This may be the stone described by Mr. Rynne as a capstone remaining in position. No orthostat of the south side of the gallery is visible but west of the two last described stones is a hollow some .30 m. deep. The southern edge of this (shown by dotted line on plan) may roughly represent the position of the southern side of the chamber.

Roughly parallel to the line of the northern side of the chamber and about 1.00 m. north of it, four stones may represent an outer-wall. The most westerly of these is at least .45 m. long, .10 m. thick and .40 m. high. It is prostrate and may be the stone described by Rynne as probably a capstone lying on the edge of the cairn. The next stone is 1.50 m. further east. It is .75 m. long, .15 m. thick and .50 m. high. About 2.75 m. further eastwards is another stone, .30 m. long, .15 m. thick and .20 m. high, and the most easterly stone of the row is .55 m. long, .10 m. thick and .35 m. high. These last three stones lean heavily northwards. Just south of the most easterly of the row above described is a set stone of uncertain function .55 m. long, .45 m. thick and .20 m. high.

Three stones are visible near the southerly edge of the mound. The most westerly is .95 m. long, .20 m. thick and .25 m. high and leans heavily towards the west. The other two lean southwards. The most westerly of these is .75 m. long, .15 m. thick and .25 m. high and the other .65 m. long, .10 m. thick and .10 m. high.

In its present obscured condition the site would remain unclassifiable. However, Rynne's sketch plan, despite difficulties in exact correlation of details with the remains now visible, makes classification as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave probable. The scant evidence at present visible is quite consistent with such a classification.

Rynne: *J.G.A.H.S.*, XXVI (1954-1956), 26-27 (Pl.).

84. **Rosbeg.** O.S. 76: 4: 4 (76.0 cm., 47.6 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 50-100. L 960 910. Fig. 58. Plate 33.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on a narrow promontory among the maze of islands and peninsulas which stud the inner reaches of Clew Bay. These islands and promontories are an extension of the drumlin lands which fringe the eastern side of the bay. The promontory on which the tomb stands is cut off from the mainland by high spring tides. The land provides good pasture and tillage. The tomb itself lies on level ground about 100 yards west of Ross House.

The monument is greatly disturbed. It consists of the remains of a segmented gallery, orientated roughly E-W, surrounded by disturbed cairn debris. A large barn has been built along the southern side of the monument about 3.00 m. from the gallery. A path runs at a similar distance along the northern side and a fence crosses the western end some 2.00 m. beyond the most westerly orthostat of the gallery. Two anomalous enclosures abut the megalithic structure. That to the north of the gallery is roughly rectangular and measures 3.50 m. long (E-W) and 2.00 m. wide (N-S). The other runs eastwards from the gallery and is roughly oval measuring 4.00 m. long (E-W) and 2.00 m. wide (N-S).

The gallery structure extends for 5.30 m. High jambs, with a septal stone between them, divide it into two chambers. In the western chamber two sidestones are present on either side. The more westerly stone of the northern side leans heavily inwards and would be .80 m. high if erect. The second stone on this side is erect and is 1.40 m. high. Both stones on the southern side are erect. The more westerly is 1.00 m. high while the other is .60 m.

The jambs of the segmentation are set longitudinally. The more northerly is 2.00 m. high. The present height of the opposite jamb is .80 m. but standing on edge just outside it, supported on loose stones, is a piece of stone, 1.30 m. tall, which seems to be broken from it. The total combined height of both would be 2.00 m. and would match the opposite jamb. The septal stone, .70 m. high, runs transversely between the jambs. Its top edge slopes down towards the south. Lying prostrate to the south of the segmentation is a block .85 m. in maximum dimension. In the eastern chamber the only side-stone of the northern side is pitched to the south into an almost prostrate position. It is 2.55 m. long, .30 m. thick and would be 1.65 m. high if erect. Four overlapping stones averaging .60 m. in height and all erect, but none firmly set, continue the line of the southern side eastwards from the segmenting jamb. It is very doubtful if any of these are in situ. A stone set transversely at the eastern end of the gallery is .80 m. high. It is very probably a jamb and may, perhaps, mark the entrance.

The enclosure lying east of the gallery is formed by stones set obliquely and ranging from .10 m. to .40 m. in height. Many of these are loose. The other enclosure, north of the western portion of the gallery, is composed of similar stones almost all of which are loose. It is most improbable that either of these enclosures form part of the original tomb.

The outline of the mound is largely affected by the fence, path and barn. Rough dry-stone work of no great antiquity, about .50 m. high, curves around the western edge. The whole of the cairn-remains can give no indication of the original extent or shape of the cairn.

While the number of chambers is uncertain the transverse jamb tends to suggest an entrance at the east and a two-chambered design would, in this case, be probable.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 119, Burrishoole No. 1.
de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 98-99, (MA. 24).
O.S.L. 14/E.19, 489.

85. **Mountaincommon.** O.S. 81: 16: 3 (85.5 cm., 8.6 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 400-500.
M 457 861. Fig 56. Plate 35.

Unclassified

The monument lies about half a mile south of Aghamore and is situated on a small knoll about 150 yards west of a bye-road which runs north-east—south-west through Mountain-common Townland. The land in the vicinity is broken by numerous low rounded hillocks and the fields are small and frequently fenced with gorse hedges. Much of this land is devoted to pasture and meadow and there is little tillage. Trees grow around many of the farmsteads.

The monument is very ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery incorporated in a mound 11.50 m. long (E-W) by 8.00 m. wide (N-S) and up to 1.25 m. high. Towards the west a stone, 1.85 m. long, .60 m. thick and .55 m. high, stands erect. Its function is

not clear. It may indicate the end of the gallery or a segmentation between the gallery and a portico which has since been removed. Adjoining this stone at the south is a sidestone which leans towards the north. It is .75 m. long, .25 m. thick and .45 m. high. Some 3.30 m. further to the east is another stone of this side of the gallery. It too leans to the north. It is .70 m. long, .15 m. thick and .20 m. high. Opposite this a single stone represents the north side of the chamber. Only a small part of this stone is exposed. It is at least .80 m. long, .35 m. thick and .35 m. high. A displaced stone, 1.10 m. in maximum dimension, lies at the north end of the transverse stone at the west. Another displaced stone, 1.00 m. in maximum dimension, lies about 1.50 m. north-west of the last.

The tomb cannot be classified with certainty but the remains would not be inconsistent with interpretation as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave.

86. Cappagh. O.S. 82: 10: 1 (23.9 cm., 24.1 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 300-400. M 490 876. Fig. 61. Plate 34.

Court Cairn

The site lies about four miles south-east of Kilkelly. It stands on gently sloping ground on the north-eastern slopes of a long ridge overlooking a wide boggy plain interspersed with lakes and eskers. Towards the north-west the distant peaks of the Sligo-Leitrim mountains are visible. The land on the ridge is limestone meadow-land with some patches of tillage.

The tomb is well preserved. It consists of a pair of two-chambered galleries set back to back with a space of 2.75 m. between them, in a long roughly parallel-sided cairn 32.00 m. long and 15.00 m. wide. The main long axis of both cairn and galleries runs roughly WNW-ESE. Each gallery is preceded by a small ante-chamber and the segmentation between the main chambers in both cases is marked by high septal stones and jambs.

The cairn edge is well defined though encumbered by dumping of field stones. It rises 1.00 m. above the adjoining ground on the south side. On the north, where the ground falls away, some spill extending 1.50 m. to 3.00 m. beyond the edge is visible. On this side also, digging near the edge has left the ground-level about 2.00 m. lower than the top of the cairn. A fence crosses the cairn and gallery in the western part of the cairn while another runs obliquely from the south-east corner of the cairn to the middle of the eastern gallery.

Eastern Gallery

A row of three set stones running south-eastwards from the entrance to the gallery possibly indicates a narrow court. The middle one of these is erect and .10 m. high. The other two lean towards the north-east and are each about .25 m. high. Three stones of the more northerly side of the ante-chamber are present. The two more easterly of these measure .35 m. and .50 m. in height and may be parts of a single stone. Together they may form an entry jamb to the ante-chamber. The third stone, .70 m. high, is a sidestone of the ante-chamber. Opposite it a stone, .40 m. high, is a sidestone of the southern side of the ante-chamber. About .50 m. north-east of the last the edge of a stone is barely exposed. It could be a collapsed ante-chamber sidestone. The ante-chamber is 1.15 m. wide and, if the jamb-like stones at the north are accepted as marking the entrance, about .75 m. long.

The entrance to the main chambers is between two jambs each .75 m. high. The more northerly leans slightly outwards. Between them is a low flat-topped sill .10 m. high. Four sidestones form the northern side of the first main chamber. In order from east to west the heights of these are: .45 m., .65 m., .40 m. and .35 m. The second of these is erect but the others lean inwards. Four stones indicate the southern side of the chamber. That nearest the entrance jamb is erect and is .50 m. high. The next is .20 m. high. Both are sidestones. The other two stones on this side lean heavily inwards and are each about .50 m. high. These may be either sidestones or corbels.

The segmenting jambs are erect and are each about .70 m. high. The sill between them is also erect and is .25 m. lower than the jambs. There are two stones outside the northern jamb. Both are .25 m. high. The more easterly may be a packing stone. The other is probably a sidestone perhaps fallen outwards. .35 m. west of the northern jamb is a sidestone, the east end of which is concealed. It is .15 m. high and leans inwards. Three stones outside this are corbels. They lean inwards. The most westerly is .20 m. high, the other two .40 m. Four further sidestones of the northern side are present. That beside the backstone is erect while the others lean inwards. In order from east to west their heights are .40 m., .30 m., .07 m. and .55 m. Leaning heavily inwards over the third of these is a corbel .55 m. in height.

On the southern side of the second chamber two sidestones, the inner faces of which are concealed, adjoin the segmenting jamb. The more westerly is .50 m. high and the other, which is partially concealed in the fence, is .40 m. high. Two stones to the west of these, leaning heavily inwards, are corbels. That nearest the backstone is .60 m. high. The other is .40 m. high and is loose and probably somewhat out of position. The backstone is .60 m. high and rises .20 m. to .50 m. above the height of the sidestones. It is about equal in height to the backstone of the western gallery. A stone, .20 m. high, is set just south of the backstone. Its function is not clear and it may be merely a packing stone.

Western Gallery

The two most westerly stones of the western gallery are the sides of an ante-chamber .75 m. wide. The more northerly is .45 m. and the other .20 m. in height. Immediately east of these are the two entry jambs to the main chambers. These are concealed to a higher level than the ante-chamber sides though they rise about .10 m. to .15 m. above them. Four stones form the northern side of the first chamber of the main gallery. These measure from west to east, .40 m., .60 m., .55 m. and .35 m. in height. The first and last are erect, the other two lean slightly inwards. A corbel, leaning inwards and measuring .70 m. in height, lies outside the last. The first chamber is filled with fieldstones and these spread also south-westwards outside the gallery west of the fence. They may well conceal evidence of the southern side of the first main chamber. Two stones only of this side appear. That nearest the segmentation protrudes .10 m. and the other .25 m. above the fill. Both seem to lean inwards and might be corbels but are more probably sidestones.

Two tall jambs with a high septal stone between them form the segmentation. All three are erect and of equal height—.70 m. The more northern jamb is pillar-like and is in line with the side of the chamber. The other jamb seems also to be in line with the opposite side. Beside the southern jamb a stone, .15 m. high, may be a packing stone. The fence crossing the gallery just east of the segmentation may conceal structure. Between this fence and the more northerly jamb of the segmentation is an erect sidestone, .30 m. high. Beyond the fence and partially embedded in it a sidestone, .10 m. high, leans heavily inwards. About .20 m. east of this is another sidestone also leaning inwards and .20 m. high. Outside this a stone, .25 m. high, leaning heavily inwards, is probably a corbel. A long stone, .30 m. in height, beside it at the east, leans heavily inwards and is probably another corbel. The sidestone beside the backstone is .50 m. high and leans slightly inwards. Three stones only of the more southerly side of this chamber appear. All are erect and measure .20 m., .30 m. and .40 m. high in order from west to east. The backstone is erect and is .55 m. high.

J.R.S.A.I., XL (1910), 77 (Photographic Collection).

87. Shinganagh. O.S. 91: 9: 5 (8.5 cm., 18.1 cm.). "Carraunnagunoge." O.D. 100-200. M 277 810. Fig. 21. Plate 35.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on low ground in gently rolling country about one and a half miles north-east of the village of Mayo. Nephin and the Nephin Beg range appear in the distance towards the north-west and to the north the high ground north-east of

Balla is visible. Elsewhere the outlook is restricted. The land in the vicinity is under pasture and mixed tillage.

The boundary fence between Monard and Shinganagh townlands runs across the monument. South of the fence, in Shinganagh townland, gallery structure, 5.00 m. long, is exposed but north of the fence no structural stones can be recognized with certainty. Surrounding the gallery and extending on both sides of the fence, a roughly rectangular mound is traceable. It is 16.00 m. long (NE-SW) and 12.00 m. broad. On the south side of the fence the mound is very low but reaches a height of approximately 1.00 m. beyond the fence where, however, collapse from the fence and dumping of field stones probably account for some of the material.

The gallery is orientated roughly NE-SW and is divided into two chambers. The north-east end of the first chamber runs into the fence. This chamber is 2.00 m. wide and at least 2.00 m. long. Two sidestones are visible at each side. The first stone of the north-west side is embedded in the fence and is .60 m. high and at least .50 m. long. Resting on it is a displaced stone 1.40 m. by at least .80 m. and .40 m. thick. The second sidestone at this side is .50 m. high. The first sidestone at the opposite side is also embedded in the fence. It is at least .40 m. long and .15 m. of its height is exposed. The second sidestone here is .40 m. high. The segmenting jambs are set .55 m. apart. That at the north-west is .80 m. high and the other is .70 m. high.

The second chamber is 2.75 m. long and 2.00 m. wide. Two stones of the north-west side remain. That nearest the segmentation is .60 m. high and the other is .70 m. high. There is a gap of about .70 m. between it and the end of the gallery. The opposite side of the chamber consists of three stones. The stone beside the segmentation is .50 m. high. Outside this is a small stone, .15 m. high, which may be a packing stone. The second sidestone is .65 m. high and the third is .70 m. high. The west end of the gallery consists of a single stone .75 m. high. At its north-west end is a small stone, .25 m. high, which is probably a packing stone. Beyond the west end of the gallery are two loose stones. The larger of these, 1.40 m. by 1.40 m. by .40 m., may have been part of the roof. The other is .70 m. in maximum dimension.

1.00 m. north-east of the fence a stone, .80 m. by .50 m. by .40 m. high, roughly in line with the north-west side of the gallery, may be in situ. The other large stones here, .60 m. to .80 m. in maximum exposed dimension, do not appear to be set. Thus, while some of the stones at this end of the monument may mark the position of a court or even an extension of the gallery, interpretation with certainty is not possible at present.

88. **Greenwood.** O.S. 92: 16: 1 (71.8 cm., 14.7 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 400-500. M 442 803. Fig. 63. Plate 37.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated in a grove of beech trees, near the crest of a gentle ridge about 400 yards north of Began Lough. It stands immediately south of the road which runs north-east - south-west through the townland. The east end of the tomb is embedded in the road fence. Inside the fence is a ditch .50 m. to 1.00 m. deep. The rolling arable land in the area is under pasture, meadow and tillage.

The monument is ruined. It consists of a gallery, 4.40 m. long and 1.00 m. wide, orientated roughly NE-SW. A stone crossing the gallery towards the east may mark a separate rear chamber about 1.50 m. long. This end of the gallery is covered by a single roofstone. A stone, leaning to the west, 1.60 m. west of the gallery, is probably the remains of a facade. If erect it would be .95 m. high. There are no clear indications of mound around the tomb. Some 4.00 m. west of the gallery a low bank marks the edge of the beech grove.

The northern side of the gallery consists of four stones. The more westerly of these leans inwards. If erect it would be .95 m. high. The second stone is .85 m. high and the stone next to this is .40 m. high. The fourth stone is set skew to the line of the other three thus narrowing the east end of the gallery. It is .45 m. high. The southern side of the gallery is represented by three stones. The more westerly, which leans inwards, is .30 m. high. The second stone is .55 m. from the last. It is .60 m. high. The third stone

is .35 m. high. The backstone is .35 m. high and is set outside the ends of the gallery sides. The transverse stone dividing the gallery leans eastwards and is not certainly in situ. It is .95 m. long at the top but narrows to .75 m. at the base. It is .35 m. high. The roofstone is partly hidden by the road fence. It is at least 1.75 m. long, 1.55 m. wide and .30 m. thick. It rests on the backstone and on the chamber sides and its eastern edge bears against the transverse stone dividing the gallery.

Cochrane: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 405.

Knox: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLI (1911), 231.

J.R.S.A.I., XXXVII (1907), 118 (Photographic Collection).

89. **Aillemore.** O.S. 95: 16: 4 (75.4 cm., 2.2 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 200-300. L 761 738. Fig. 62. Plates 35 and 36.

Court Cairn

The monument stands near the crest of a ridge overlooking the valley of the Bunleemshough River. The land falls steeply eastwards to the river valley. To the west the top of the ridge, about twenty yards distant, restricts the view but from the crest a wide extent of the sea-coast is visible. Southwards the mountain masses around Killary form the skyline. The land on the hillside around the tomb is rough mountain pasture with rock outcrops but there are patches of more fertile land in the valley.

The tomb is very well preserved. It consists of a cairn, 16.00 m. long and 14.00 m. broad, embedded in which is a neat two-chambered gallery and also a small subsidiary chamber placed 1.50 m. behind the gallery. The main gallery is 4.00 m. long and is orientated roughly ESE-WNW, the entry facing ESE. The cairn is well preserved and rises about 1.50 m. above the level of the surrounding ground. It envelops both main and subsidiary chambers almost to the level of the tops of the corbels which are preserved in several tiers in both structures. Two fences are built into the more easterly end forming a funnel-shaped way through the cairn to the gallery entrance. A few large stones are exposed in the more northerly fence. These can hardly be structural stones of the tomb, in situ. No indication of court is present but the cairn or the fences could conceal courtstones.

The gallery entrance and the segmentation are each defined by a pair of well-matched jambs set longitudinally with low sills between each pair. The entrance is 1.10 m. wide. The more northerly jamb is .95 m. high and the other 1.30 m. high. The flat-topped sill, which fits neatly between them, is .25 m. high. Single orthostats are in position at either side of the front chamber. That to the north is .45 m. high and the opposite stone is .50 m. high. Inside the southern sidestone a small set stone, .25 m. high, is probably a packing stone.

The more northerly jamb of the segmentation is .90 m. high and the opposite jamb .80 m. high. The flat-topped sill between these is .20 m. high. The sides of the inner chamber also have single orthostats. The more northerly is .65 m. high and the other .85 m. high. The backstone, which fits neatly between the ends of the sidestones, is 1.20 m. high. It has a flat top, bevelled inwards, and sloping sides. A stone, .65 m. long, .15 m. thick and .05 m. high, in the south-west corner of the gallery is probably not in situ.

The corbelling over the north side of the gallery is formed of high-pitched slabs rising in several irregular tiers over the orthostats. Outside the gallery side these slabs are much concealed as they are still embedded in the cairn. Their exposed inner faces measure .55 m. to 1.80 m. in length and their thickness varies from .10 m. to .20 m. Many are at least 1.50 m. in maximum width (N-S). The corbelling on the south side of the gallery consists principally of two great steeply pitched slabs. One overlaps the whole of the side of the front chamber. It measures 2.45 m. long (E-W) and .20 m. thick. The other overlaps the whole side of the second chamber and is 2.20 m. long and .20 m. thick. Both run deep into the cairn-mass. Near the entry jamb the first of these great corbels is supported on smaller corbel slabs. Here a slab, .35 m. long, .05 m. thick and .80 m. in depth, intervenes between the great corbel and the sidestone and entry

jamb. Jammed under this slab are slivers .03 m. to .10 m. thick and .20 m. to about .40 m. in maximum dimensions. Similarly, near the backstone, the second great corbel is supported by a corbel slab, .10 m. thick and .80 m. long, pitched steeply behind the sidestones. Between this again and the sidestone three small pieces of stone are jammed. The largest of these pieces is .25 m. by .40 m. and .05 m. thick. The other two are .05 m. and .02 m. thick.

The subsidiary chamber is much concealed by corbelling and also by collapsed roofing and debris from the cairn. While the principle of construction employed is clear, i.e., steep pitched corbels laid in several irregular tiers over orthostats similar to that in the main gallery, it is difficult without clearance to distinguish set orthostats from almost vertical corbels. Moreover, too little is exposed to permit of any certainty as to the exact ground plan. The stones shown hatched on the plan are probably orthostats, and suggest a small, perhaps rectangular, chamber which may have opened towards the west or south-west. Of these stones, that furthest to the north-west leans heavily southwards while the rest are approximately erect. These are all about .60 m.-.75 m. in height save that at the north-east which is about .35 m. The other exposed slabs are mainly corbels and are from .10 m. to .20 m. thick but though several are at least 1.00 m. in maximum dimension, few are sufficiently exposed to warrant the publication of detailed measurements. The high enveloping cairn could well conceal further chamber structure. It does not seem likely that the rear structure could be interpreted as part of a second main gallery giving a dual-court type design to the whole tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 124-125, Murrisk 3 (Pl. Drg.).

Kinahan, G. H.: *P.R.I.A.*, XV (1870-1879), 69 (Pl. Drg.).

de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 99, (MA. 25), (Pl.).

90. **Formoyle.** 96: 5: 1 (5.3 cm., 41.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. L 786 779. Fig. 64. Plate 37.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on a platform on the north-western slopes of Formoyle hill. The site commands an extensive outlook across the sea from Achill Island towards the north to Inishbofin and Inishark at the south-west. Askillaun Hill interrupts the view northwards but to the north-east the mountains north of Clew Bay form the skyline. The ground in the vicinity is strewn with numerous boulders and there is much rock outcrop. The land is now used mainly as pasture but there are traces of cultivation ridges on the hill and at the site old ridges run right up to the perimeter of the monument.

The monument is very ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery, 4.50 m. long, orientated roughly NE-SW. A court which preceded the gallery, at the north-east, is almost entirely destroyed and is now represented by two stones only. The tomb is surrounded by a roughly oval mound which rises to a height of about 1.25 m. It is 15.00 m. long (NE-SW) and 12.00 m. in greatest width. It seems to have incorporated several large natural boulders or cropping rock (not on plan) which are exposed close to the perimeter. Two stones near the edge of the mound at the south-east may be kerb stones but this is most uncertain. The more northerly of these is .20 m. high and the other is .55 m. high. Both stones lean to the south.

The entrance to the gallery is between two well-matched jambs, each 1.00 m. high, set .50 m. apart. Adjoining the jamb at the south-east is a courtstone .65 m. high. Some 3.00 m. north-east of the entrance a set stone, .70 m. high, seems to be another courtstone and, in fact, may mark the entrance to the court.

The south-eastern side of the gallery is represented by four orthostats. That nearest to the entrance is very low and only .10 m. of its height is exposed. Between it and the entrance jamb is a stone, .70 m. high, which leans heavily to the north. Its function is not clear and it may not be in situ. The second sidestone leans inwards and is set at a slight angle to the line of the first. If erect it would be .40 m. high. The third sidestone is .70 m. high. Outside it is a set stone, .25 m. high, of uncertain function. There is a

gap of 1.25 m. between the third and fourth sidestones. The latter is a low stone .10 m. high. The only surviving stone of the other side of the gallery is opposite this. It is .45 m. high. The south-west end of the gallery is closed by a single stone set outside the ends of the gallery sides. Its top edge slopes downwards from .85 m. high at the south-east to .25 m. high at the north-west.

The number of chambers in the gallery is not certain but the length of the gallery and the change of alignment in the south-east side suggest two chambers.

91. Srahwee. O.S. 96: 13: 2 (14.9 cm., 9.0 cm.). "Tobernahaltora." O.D. 100-200. L 795 745. Fig. 55. Plate 38.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument stands beside a road near the foot of a low cliff about 150 yards east of the north end of Lough Nahaltora. The outlook from the site is confined to the vicinity of the lake except towards the south where the Mweelrea Mountains and the Sheffry Hills form the skyline. The soil in the area is rather thin and in places strewn with boulders. It is used mainly for pasture, though there are the remains of old cultivation ridges near the shore of the lake. In wet weather the floor of the chamber becomes flooded and the monument has for long been venerated as a holy well. A simple cross is incised on the surface of the roof near the south-east corner.

The monument is well preserved. It consists of a gallery, about 4.20 m. long, orientated roughly ESE-WNW. The main chamber, which is 2.40 m. long, is separated by a transverse slab from a portico about 1.40 m. long. A single stone closed the east end of the gallery. The greater part of the main chamber is covered by a large roofstone. Close-set outer-walling runs along the north and south sides of the gallery. There are low traces of a mound around the tomb but its outline is difficult to define because of the uneven nature of the ground. At the south an irregular turf-cutting adds to the difficulty of interpretation.

Four stones of the north side of the gallery are in position and a fifth, at the west, has collapsed into the portico. This stone, which would be about .70 m. high if erect, formed part of the portico side. The stone next is also part of the side of the portico and is .60 m. high. The next sidestone is a pillar-like stone 1.10 m. high. Outside it is a stone, .20 m. high, fitted into a narrow gap between the septal stone and the portico side. The fourth sidestone is 1.20 m. high. The fifth, which leans heavily inwards, would be 1.00 m. high if erect. North of this is a stone, 1.00 m. high, split longitudinally, which seems to be a doubling of the gallery side. West of it, a thin sliver of stone, .60 m. high (not on plan), may be split from the sidestone last described. Continuing the line of the gallery side beyond the backstone and filling a gap at its north end is a pillar-like stone .70 m. high.

The south side of the gallery is also of five stones and all of these are erect. The two more westerly form the side of the portico. The heights of the sidestones from west to east, respectively, are: .50 m., .65 m., 1.10 m., 1.30 m. and 1.20 m.

The septal stone, which leans slightly inwards, is 1.00 m. high. There is a gap of .30 m. between its south end and the chamber side but this decreases to .15 m. at the top. The backstone is also 1.00 m. high. Above it and resting on two very small crushed stones is a piece of stone, .60 m. by .20 m. and .05 m. thick, which supports the roofstone. Another very small stone is crushed between this and the roofstone. The roofstone is 2.40 m. long, 2.10 m. wide and .20 m. thick. It rests in a sloping position on the gallery sides.

The outer-wall forms an irregular line on either side of the gallery and the stones overlap in several cases. Along the north side the heights vary from .25 m. to .70 m. and along the south from .15 m. to .80 m. At the south the outer-wall extends behind the east end of the gallery for a distance of about 1.00 m.

92. Feamore. O.S. 112: 8: 2 (84.2 cm., 38.1 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 200-300. M 453 699. Plate 41.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

This monument has been destroyed since we visited it during reconnaissance in 1952. Not a vestige of the tomb remains and the site is now marked by a bare patch on the ground. In 1952, though the north side of the monument was partially undermined, the gallery was comparatively well preserved and outer-walling was present on both sides. The classification of the tomb as a wedge-shaped gallery is certain. There are two photographs of the tomb in the Photographic Collection of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland but, unfortunately, these are very faded and can add little to our knowledge of the tomb. These are reproduced on Plate 41. The monument is described in the O.S. Name Book (1925), p. 72, as ". . . an ancient tomb consisting of a series of earthfast stones and partly covered with flagstones—most of which are displaced—and guarded on either side by a kerb of standing stones. . ." The tomb was marked "McMahon's Monument" on older O.S. maps but a note in the modern Name Book signed by T. B. Costello, M.D., Tuam, Co. Galway, states: "The name McMahon is modern and should not be retained. . . ."

J.R.S.A.I., XXXVII (1907), 118 (Photographic Collection).
de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 71.

93. Lisduff. O.S. 112: 10: 2 (35.9 cm., 24.7 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 200-300. M 402 686. Fig. 65. Plate 37.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated some two miles east of Ballindine and about forty yards north of the main road leading from that town to Dunmore. It stands near the crest of a long low ridge, running east-west, in gently rolling country. Southwards from the site the land falls to a valley of rushy pasture and then rises to another long ridge about one mile distant. Nephin mountain is visible towards the north-west but elsewhere the outlook is not extensive. The land in the vicinity is mostly under meadow and pasture with some tillage. Southwards from the tomb, and in the same field, are the remains of part of a ringfort which has been almost obliterated by the building of the road.

The monument is ruined but a considerable amount of structure is present. The remains consist of a very long gallery, aligned roughly NE-SW, surrounded by an outer-wall which converges on the gallery towards the east. There are some indications of a straight facade at the west and the gallery appears to have opened on to this. No roofstones are in position but some eight large slabs lying along the long axis of the tomb are probably displaced covers. There are considerable remains of mound present and the gallery itself and the space between the gallery and the outer-wall contain a great deal of fill. The mound is of irregular oval outline. It is about 16.50 m. long (E-W) and tapers from 9.50 m. wide near the west to 6.50 m. wide towards the east. It is up to 1.25 m. in height and has steep edges. The outline may have been disturbed by a fence and ditch which pass close to the monument at the west.

The gallery is 9.50 m. long and varies from 1.30 m. to 1.70 m. in width. The lines of the gallery sides are of somewhat irregular construction but in general the gallery seems to narrow towards the east. The gallery sidestones are all much concealed but seem to be higher towards the west.

The south side of the gallery is represented by seven orthostats. These are between .55 m. and 1.30 m. long and from .15 m. to .40 m. thick. Their heights are between .30 m. and .80 m. At least five orthostats of the opposite side are visible. These are from .70 m. to 1.35 m. in length and between .10 m. and .40 m. thick. Their heights are between .05 m. and .60 m. The east end of the gallery is closed by a slab 1.30 m. long, .30 m. thick and .40 m. high. Further gallery structure may be concealed by the displaced roofstones. These are from .85 m. to 1.75 m. in maximum dimension and between .20 m. and .35 m. thick.

The outer-walling along the north is represented by six stones. All except one lean heavily outwards. They are between .75 m. and 1.25 m. in length and from .15 m. to .30 m. thick. When erect they would be from .40 m. to .50 m. high. At the west the outer-wall is 2.50 m. from the wall of the gallery and this decreases to .90 m. at the east. The southern side of the outer-walling is represented by seven stones most of which are erect. They are between .50 m. and 1.20 m. in length and .30 m. in average thickness. Their heights vary from .20 m. to .40 m. The distance between the outer-wall and the gallery side at the west is 2.20 m. and this decreases to about 1.50 m. near the east. The east end of the outer-wall is represented by a single stone set 2.00 m. behind the end of the gallery. It leans heavily outwards and if erect would be .65 m. high. Two facade stones are visible north of the entrance to the gallery. The more northerly of these leans heavily outwards. If erect it would be .30 m. high. The second stone leans slightly outwards and is .45 m. high. Immediately south of the last and in front of the entrance to the gallery is an almost concealed stone .60 m. long, .25 m. thick and .10 m. high. Its function is not clear but if it is a structural stone it probably serves as an entrance jamb.

J.R.S.A.I., XXXVII (1907), 118 (Photographic Collection).

94. **Knockadoon.** O.S. 112: 11: 2 (59.7 cm., 23.1 cm.). "Dolmen." O.D. 200-300. M 427 684. Fig. 63. Plate 39.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The monument is situated near the top of a broad ridge about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of the Ballindine-Dunmore road. The land in the vicinity is rolling pasture and meadow with some cultivation and supports some trees. The lower ground is wet and rush-grown. From the site there is an extensive view southwards across rolling land. To the west the distant mountains of west Mayo form the skyline.

The monument is ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery, about 4.50 m. long, orientated roughly E-W. At the east a backstone and two sidestones are in position and are covered by a single roofstone. Westwards from these the gallery contains a considerable amount of fill. The continuation of the line of the north side is indicated by two almost concealed stones. Another at the south may be part of that side. At the west are three stones which formed a facade. The tomb is surrounded by a mound of irregular outline which reaches a height of about 1.00 m. The present edges of the mound are largely due to cultivation.

The backstone, which leans inwards, would be .50 m. high if erect. The northern sidestone adjoining it is 1.00 m. high at the west and .80 m. high at the east, and the opposite sidestone is .90 m. high at the west and .50 m. high at the east. These three slabs are of regular outline with flat top surfaces. In line with the southern sidestone and about 1.00 m. to the west is a stone, .20 m. high, which is much concealed. It may be the top of a sidestone but this is uncertain. Opposite this is another stone, protruding scarcely .10 m. above the ground, which may be part of the north side of the gallery. About 1.50 m. west of the last the top of a sidestone .30 m. high is exposed. Within the gallery area, towards the east, is a displaced stone, .85 m. in maximum dimension.

The roofstone is 2.05 m. by 1.50 m. and .40 m. thick. At the south it rests on part of the sidestone and also on a small stone, .07 m. thick, on top of the sidestone. At the north it rests on two small stones, .30 m. and .15 m. in maximum dimension, and .08 m. thick, set on top of the sidestone. At no point is it supported by the backstone.

Two stones of the facade lean very heavily outwards. The third, at the north, has collapsed and is now prostrate. It would be about .80 m. high if erect. The stone south of it would be .90 m. high if erect and the third stone .70 m. high if erect. Behind the east end of the gallery is a set stone, .45 m. high, which may be part of the east end of an outer-wall.

J.R.S.A.I., XXXVIII (1908), 98 (Photographic Collection).

95. Killimore. O.S. 120: 7: 6 (61.6 cm., 37.5 cm.). "Leach-an-Faugha." O.D. 50-100. M 134 577. Fig. 66. Plate 39.

Court Cairn

The tomb stands in an area of level ground about two miles east of Lough Mask. The soil in the vicinity is thin, and fissured limestone crag is extensively exposed. The land provides fairly good pasture though much of it is encumbered by hazel. The outlook from the site is rather restricted and the position is overlooked by higher drumlin land southwards towards Lough Corrib.

The monument is fairly well preserved though fences and over-growth make examination difficult and a modern roofing of small slabs has been placed over the first chamber. The tomb consists of a gallery, 4.00 m. long, orientated approximately E-W, and divided by jambs into two chambers. Good entry jambs are present and some stones flanking these on both sides may be courtstones but interference by fences makes for uncertainty here.

The entry jambs are set .45 m. apart. The northerly of these is erect and is 1.20 m. high. The southerly is split more or less diagonally for its full height and leans westwards. If erect it would be 1.45 m. high. Both jambs have straight horizontal top edges. A single orthostat, .40 m. high, runs the greater part of the length of the north side of the gallery. It leans inwards. A long corbel, .10 m. thick, rests on two small stones laid above the sidestone and above this again is a smaller corbel also .10 m. thick. Just inside the gallery entrance a long slab, .40 m. thick, rests on the long corbel at the northern side and on a few small stones above the sidestone of the southern side-wall. It bears against the northern entry jamb and is very probably a lintel displaced from the top of the entry jambs.

A single orthostat also forms most of the southern side of the gallery. It leans heavily inwards and would be .70 m. high if erect. It is split across .90 m. from its west end. A small packing stone, .15 m. high, is set inside it. A steeply pitched corbel, .10 m. thick, overlaps the sidestone near the middle. Just south of this another slab (not on plan), 1.30 m. in maximum dimension and .10 m. thick, could be a displaced corbel.

The northern side of the gallery is completed by a stone, 1.00 m. high, which leans inwards and runs towards the backstone. The stone opposite it completing the southern side is 1.30 m. high. It leans slightly inwards and touches the backstone. The great backstone is 1.55 m. high and has clean perpendicular sides.

The segmenting jambs divide the gallery, which is 1.60 m. wide, into two chambers of unequal size. The front chamber is 1.50 m. long and the rear chamber 2.30 m. The jambs are irregular but fairly well-matched stones each 1.05 m. high. The gap between them is .25 m. but the southern jamb seems to have been forced inwards reducing the space at the top to .15 m.

In a fence running south-eastwards from the southern entry jamb the faces of two stones, each 1.20 m. high, are exposed. These may be courtstones but the presence of the fence makes this uncertain. Flanking the northern entry jamb a stone, 1.40 m. high, could well be a courtstone. Wedged between this and the jamb and filling the gap between them is a stone .90 m. high. Directly in front of the entrance and 2.00 m. distant is a large prostrate flag .15 m. thick. About 1.50 m. south-east of it is a stone, .60 m. high, which seems to be set and may perhaps be a courtstone.

Cairn-mass surrounds the gallery save at the east. In it several large slabs, upwards of 1.25 m. in maximum dimension, are exposed. These might be displaced corbels or roofstones or merely heavy cairn material. A very large stone, over 2.00 m. in maximum dimension, the edge of which is exposed towards the southern margin of the cairn, may be natural outcrop. The mound edge east of the gallery is only faintly defined. If this represents the original cairn edge the overall length would seem to be about 15.00 m. The remains indicate a width of 9.00 m.

96. **Knocknageeha.** O.S. 121: 11: 2 (57.0 cm., 23.8 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. M 227 560. Fig. 64. Plate 38.

Court Cairn

The monument is situated on the north side of a ridge in undulating country some three miles south-west of Kilmaine. The land in the vicinity is used for pasture and tillage. The outlook from the site is restricted except towards the west where the Connemara mountains are visible.

The tomb is very ruined. It consists of the remains of a gallery, 5.00 m. long, orientated roughly NE-SW. The gallery is divided into two chambers but only one segmenting jamb is in position. The tomb is surrounded by dense overgrowth which may conceal the remains of a cairn. The overgrown area, which extends 7.00 m. beyond the gallery to the north-east, is 22.00 m. long. Some 3.00 m. beyond the northern side of the gallery and continuing about the same distance behind the western end is a steep fall in the ground which seems to be artificial. A sunken pathway runs parallel to the tomb about 6.50 m. to the south. The northern side of this path may mark the edge of the cairn but this is most uncertain. A bull-dozer has been in use in the vicinity and at the south-east has been operated up to the edge of the over-growth.

The entrance to the gallery, at the east, is marked by a single jamb stone 1.20 m. high. Leaning against this is a displaced stone, 1.00 m. long and .25 m. thick, which may be the jamb of the opposite side. If erect it would be 1.10 m. high. In front of the entrance is a stone 1.40 m. in maximum exposed dimension. Its function is unknown.

The northern side of the gallery is represented by three stones. The most easterly is 1.00 m. high. The stone next to this leans inwards and if erect would be .85 m. high. The third stone leans very heavily inwards. If erect it would be .60 m. high. The opposite side of the gallery is indicated by a single sidestone, at the south-west. It leans very heavily inwards and its base is not in situ. If erect it would be 1.00 m. high. The south-western end of the gallery is closed by a single stone now leaning outwards. If erect it would be .90 m. high. Behind the backstone is a loose block .80 m. in maximum dimension.

The segmenting jamb is 1.00 m. high. Its position indicates that the front chamber was about 2.00 m. long and the second chamber 2.80 m. long. Two stones lie within the rear chamber. That nearest the jamb may be a displaced sidestone. It is .70 m. long, .15 m. thick and if erect would be .60 m. high. The second, a displaced slab .70 m. by .70 m. and .15 m. thick, is of unknown function.

97. **Ballynastangford Lower.** O.S. 91: 14: 6 (41.0 cm., 3.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. M 312 793. Fig. 67. Plate 40.

Court Cairn

The monument lies low down on the south-western side of a long low ridge of arable and grassland. About 100 yards west of the tomb a flat bogland extends about half a mile to long low grassy ridges which form the skyline. In general the view from the site is restricted by the ridges but Nephin Mountain and the high ground near Balla are visible in the distance.

The tomb is considerably damaged. A segmented gallery, orientated roughly east and west and divided into two chambers, stands in an irregular mound about 1 m. high covering a roughly circular area about 15 m. in diameter. The edges of the mound are largely the result of tillage and cannot be relied on to show the original shape. Recent interference is evident at the north-western side.

At the east a pair of jambs, .65 m. apart and set transversely to the main axis of the gallery, form the entrance. Each measures .45 m. in height. The northern jamb is flat-topped and leans slightly eastwards. The other jamb leans more heavily eastwards and its top edge is uneven. Three sidestones of the northern side of the first chamber are visible and measure in height, respectively, from east to west .25 m., .35 m. and .15 m. The most easterly of these leans inwards and if erect it would be more in line with the

other two. The southern side of the chamber is less easily traced. The top of a sidestone appears .40 m. west of the entry jamb. It is .35 m. lower than the entry jamb. Its east end is concealed but towards the west it is exposed to a depth of .40 m. Just .30 m. west of this the edge of a stone appears under a heavy slab. It is at least .50 m. long, .15 m. thick and .40 m. high and leans heavily northwards. It is uncertain whether this is a sidestone or a corbel. The slab resting above it measures 1.25 m. by at least .75 m. and is .30 m. thick. It leans very heavily northwards and is very probably a corbel. Immediately south of it are two large prostrate slabs .20 m. thick and 1.20 m. and 1.40 m. in maximum dimension. They may be displaced corbels or roofstones. Two other stones are probably sidestones of the southern side of the first chamber. The more westerly of these stands erect just south of the segmenting jambs between the first and second chambers. It measures at least .85 m. long, .30 m. thick and is .25 m. high. Just .50 m. east of this the top of a stone protrudes .10 m. above the ground. It also is probably a sidestone. Immediately to the north of it the edge of a slab, at least 1.85 m. in length and .40 m. thick, protrudes .15 m. above the ground. It appears to lean inwards. It could possibly be interpreted as a sidestone pressed inwards and in this case the smaller stone outside it could not be accepted as a sidestone. However, on the whole it seems more likely that the smaller stone is the sidestone and that the larger slab may be displaced from the roofing. Tilted over this stone are two slabs lying in the chamber. The uppermost is 1.60 m. by .85 m. and .30 m. thick. The stone underneath measures .95 m. by .75 m. and .15 m. thick. These slabs may be displaced corbels or roofstones. About .75 m. east of them a displaced slab lying almost concealed within the chamber is .20 m. thick and at least .65 m. in maximum dimension.

The segmenting jambs are set .30 m. apart. The northern is erect and is .75 m. high. The other is .35 m. high and leans heavily to the west. Its top is irregular and may be broken. If this stone were erect the segmenting jambs would be more nearly parallel to the entry jambs. Three stones of the northern side of the second chamber are erect. These measure .50 m., .65 m., .90 m. high, respectively, from east to west. Leaning over the two most easterly is a corbel slab measuring 1.00 m. by .70 m. and .30 m. thick. Two stones only of the opposite side of the chamber are present. The more easterly is .25 m. high and leans slightly inwards. The other is .90 m. high and leans sharply inwards. A slab corbel, 1.05 m. by .70 m. and .30 m. thick, leans on the more easterly of these sidestones. The end of the chamber has evidently been recently dug into. A step in ground-level about 3 m. west of the segmenting jambs suggests that a backstone may have been removed. The line of the sides suggests a narrowing of the end of the gallery.

The front chamber is 3.90 m. long and about 2.35 m. wide and the second is 2.10 m. wide and would appear to have been about 3 m. long. The general design clearly suggests a two-chambered gallery.

98. Harefield. O.S. 101: 2: 1 (25.9 cm., 57.2 cm.) Not marked. O.D. 200-300. M 295 787. Fig. 68. Plate 40.

Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave

The tomb lies on the western side of a ridge of hilly land overlooking a flat boggy valley. Small hillocks confine the view towards the east. The land on the ridge is a thin soil with occasional outcrops of limestone and is largely utilized for pasture, though some tillage is undertaken. About 150 yards west of the tomb the pasture gives way to bogland in the valley floor and Drumady Lough lies about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile southwards. Beyond the bog to the west the land rises slightly in long low ridges and over these the peaks of the distant Connemara Mountains appear. Northwards Nephin and the Nephin Beg range are visible.

The monument is very ruined. It consists of a collapsed gallery, orientated east and west, in an irregular mound about 8.00 m. long and 5.00 m. wide. Along the northern side of the mound is a low stone fence. The mound rises 1.00 m. above the field level to the south. Its present edge surrounds the surviving stone structure and cannot be taken as indicative of the original shape.

Four sidestones of the southern side of the gallery remain, forced outwards by roofstones which partially conceal them. The most westerly of these sidestones is 1.30 m. long and .25 m. thick. It leans heavily southwards and if erect would be .85 m. high. Immediately east of it the next sidestone is almost prostrate and measures .90 m. long, .25 m. thick and would be .75 m. high if erect. The third sidestone is prostrate and measures .90 m. long, .35 m. thick and would be .65 m. high if erect. The most easterly sidestone leans heavily southwards. It is 1.95 m. long, .25 m. thick and would be .85 m. high if erect. Its top edge slopes down from west to east.

A stone almost at right angles to the most easterly sidestone, just described, is very probably the backstone. It leans very heavily westwards. It is a neat stone with straight edges and measures 1.10 m. long, .25 m. thick and would be .65 m. high if erect.

One sidestone of the northern side of the gallery stands 1.50 m. north of the most westerly stone of the southern side. It leans to the south and measures 1.00 m. long, .30 m. thick and protrudes .25 m. above the ground. About .30 m. east of it the top of a stone, .65 m. long by .35 m. wide, barely protrudes above the surface. It also may be a sidestone. Along this side of the tomb the ground level is some .75 m. higher than along the opposite side and thus the heights of the two last described stones would reasonably well compare with the general height of the stones in the southern side of the tomb. It is possible that other sidestones on this side are concealed in the mound. A stone, set just outside the line indicated by the two stones last described, leans very heavily outwards and measures .85 m. long, .35 m. thick and .25 m. high. It may be a sidestone forced outwards or less likely an outer-wall stone.

Four large slabs rest on the collapsed southern side of the gallery. Their northern edges are concealed. They measure from 1.75 m. to 2.10 m. in maximum dimension and are from .20 m. to .30 m. thick. They are very probably collapsed roofstones. The edges of five stones protrude from the base of the mound outside the southern side. They are very much concealed and appear to be the edges of almost prostrate stones. They may represent outer-walling along this side.

A large block set upright in the fence and measuring 1.50 m. long, .50 m. thick and .60 m. high, may be an outer-wall stone but it is perhaps more probable that it was placed in its present position by the builders of the fence. A heavy block 1.40 m. by 1.20 m. and .40 m. thick (not on plan), lying 1.00 m. north of the fence may have been displaced from the tomb.

The monument can be safely classified as a Wedge-shaped Gallery Grave. The gallery was at least 5.00 m. long and to judge from the evidence of the sidestones at the west, and the backstone, would have been about 1.50 m. wide at the west and 1.10 m. wide at the east.

99. Cashel. O.S. 15: 5: 3 (19.2 cm., 41.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100. G 201 347. Fig. 68. Plate 40.

Court Cairn

The tomb lies on gently sloping ground on the side of a low ridge. North of the site the land falls to a marshy valley. Southwards the ground rises slightly to an area of low hills overlooking the estuary of the Palmerstown River. The site lies half a mile from the sea-coast and commands a wide view across Killala Bay beyond which the Ox Mountains in Sligo and the ranges from Benbulbin to Slieve League in Donegal form the skyline. The field in which the tomb lies is arable land partly under rushy meadow and partly under oats. The land in the district provides arable and pasture on the slopes but the lower ground is marshy and patches of bog occur in places on the hills.

The site, which is considerably ruined, consists of a gallery, 4.00 m. long and 1.50 m. to 1.75 m. wide, set towards the more eastern end of a grass-grown mound, 17.00 m. long, orientated roughly ESE-WNW. The mound which seems to consist largely of stones rises about .50 m. above the general level of the surrounding ground. Its edges are not well defined especially along the more southern side but a general decrease in width from east to west is apparent.

The entrance to the gallery is marked by a pair of jambs. The more southerly jamb is .65 m. high and leans very slightly eastwards. The other jamb leans very heavily eastwards and is .40 m. high. If erect it would match the other jamb fairly well. The more northerly side of the gallery consists of five erect stones. That nearest the entry is .60 m. high. The next is a low block .15 m. high and the third is .75 m. high. It is slightly overlapped by the fourth sidestone which is a long flat-topped flag .25 m. high. The fifth sidestone adjoins the backstone and is .60 m. high. Three sidestones only of the more southerly side of the gallery remain. That adjoining the entry jamb is erect and is .50 m. high. The next is 1.70 m. towards the west. It leans slightly inwards and is .45 m. high. The third adjoins the backstone. It is .10 m. high. The backstone is erect and set between the ends of the sidestones. Inside the chamber .25 m. of its height is exposed. It is .10 m. lower than the adjoining sidestone to the south and .30 m. lower than that to the north. Its top edge may be broken.

Continuing the line of the northern side eastwards of the entrance jamb are two stones, .50 m. high, placed almost erect. These are not deeply set and are probably not an original feature. There is no clear evidence for court structure east of the gallery entrance but two blocks (not on plan), almost concealed in the ground, could perhaps belong to such a feature. Inside the gallery are two long narrow stones. The more westerly of these, which is 1.35 m. long, .30 m. broad and .20 m. thick, may possibly have been a lintel. The other is .95 m. long, .40 m. broad and .25 m. thick. Immediately outside the southern side of the gallery two prostrate stones may be displaced corbels. The more easterly of these measures 1.00 m. by .95 m. and is .30 m. thick. The other lies loose on the surface and is 1.10 m. by .75 m. and .20 m. thick. On the north side of the gallery another prostrate slab, 1.30 m. by .85 m. and .25 m. thick, could also be a displaced corbel or roofstone. Two stones immediately to the north-west of it are firmly embedded. The smaller is .20 m. high and the larger which leans to the north-east is .55 m. high. It is probable that neither of these stones are structural.

Just 1.75 m. behind the backstone two stones, each .65 m. in height, are not set and are probably not in situ. About 1.50 m. south of these a large slab, 1.60 m. by .80 m. and .30 m. thick, lies prostrate over smaller stones. A stone beside this slab on the east is erect and measures .45 m. high. It does not appear to be deeply set. Another stone about 1.00 m. south of the last leans heavily to the south-west. It is .30 m. high. It may not be structural. Several smaller blocks, .40 m. to .75 m. in maximum dimension, lie around the gallery, especially to the west of it. None of these appear to be set structural stones. Two stones (not on plan) stand upright beside the most easterly sidestone of the southern side of the gallery. The tallest is .75 m. Neither is set. Three large slabs lie near the edge of the mound. The smallest measures .20 m. thick and the two larger .35 m. thick.

The design of the gallery structure suggests a division into two chambers. The overlapping of the long sidestone in the northern side with the shorter one to the east of it probably indicates the general position of the segmentation.

100. Carrownaglogh. O.S. 32: 13: 1 (6.2 cm., 12.4 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 700. G 379 186. Fig. 69. Plate 40.

Court Cairn

The monument lies on the north-western slopes of the Ox Mountains. North-westwards the land falls to a mountain valley traversed by a little stream. The whole district is mountain bogland overlooked by the rocky heights of the main spine of the Ox range.

The tomb is ruined and considerably concealed. A long cairn, orientated ESE-WNW, about 27 m. long and 15 m. wide, is largely embedded in peat growth. It rises to a maximum of 1.50 m. above the surrounding surface but is much interfered with by the upcast of burrowing animals. Along part of the northern side the cairn appears as a mound raised above the bog but this fades towards the east. The raised mound continues around the west end and for about 8 m. along the southern side. Further eastwards on this side for about 7 m. the cairn appears as stones sunken below the general

level of the bog. In the eastern portion of the site the rushy peat cover makes even an approximate cairn edge untraceable. Extending 4 m. beyond the raised mound at the west end, stones in the peat may indicate further cairn structure here. Taken as a whole the cairn evidence clearly indicates a long cairn but exact shape and dimensions are uncertain.

At the eastern end of the monument several set stones indicate a court structure but exact interpretation is difficult. A very large slab, 2.70 m. long, .80 m. high and .25 m. thick, leaning heavily to the north may belong to the south arm of the court. Just north of it another firmly set stone leaning sharply to the south measures 1.00 m. long, .85 m. high and .20 m. thick. Its function is uncertain. West of the long slab first described three stones are set with the long axis of each more or less NNE-SSW. The most easterly of these is erect and measures .65 m. long, .85 m. high and .10 m. thick. The next is 1.15 m. long, .20 m. thick and .65 m. high and leans slightly towards the south-east. The third is .60 m. long, .05 m. thick and .30 m. high and leans south-eastwards. The function of these three stones is uncertain but they perhaps suggest some form of subsidiary chamber opening off the court.

About .40 m. west of the last of the three stones above described a slab, 1.15 m. long, .15 m. thick and .95 m. high, is very probably a courtstone. It leans somewhat towards the east. Some .50 m. north-west of it a large slab, 1.95 m. long, .20 m. thick and .85 m. high, is set erect. It is apparently a courtstone of the inner end of the court. About .70 m. to the north of it two superimposed prostrate slabs were very probably originally a single stone. The upper portion measures 2.35 m. by at least 1.00 m. and is .20 m. thick. The other piece largely concealed under it is at least 1.50 m. by .75 m. and is .15 m. thick. If the slab were intact and upright it would evidently match the large stone set to the south of it. It seems likely that the pair would have functioned as courtstones and also as the entry jambs leading from the court to a gallery. There is, however, no surface evidence for main gallery structure immediately westwards of them.

About 6 m. further west a group of set stones and prostrate slabs seem to represent a collapsed chamber structure, probably a subsidiary. Two stones set erect close together running parallel to each other may be sidestones. The largest of these is 1.80 m. long, .25 m. thick and .60 m. high. The other measures 1.15 m. long, .20 m. thick and .75 m. high. Beside its northern end a stone, 1.35 m. long, .70 m. wide and .15 m. thick, lies in an almost prostrate position leaning eastwards with its western edge still embedded in the ground. If erect it would continue the line of the set stone beside it on the south. Just .25 m. east of this collapsed stone is a set stone .85 m. long, .20 m. thick and .50 m. high. It leans northwards and may represent the back of the chamber. East of the group of stones just described are three large overlapping slabs. The largest measures 2.30 m. long, .30 m. thick and at least 1.60 m. wide. It may be a roofstone. Partly concealed under its southern corner is a slab 1.15 m. long, .15 m. thick and at least .65 m. wide. It might be a collapsed sidestone. Resting above the great slab is a stone 1.05 m. by at least 1.25 m. and .15 m. thick. Its western edge is embedded in the ground. It could be a collapsed sidestone of the western side or an entry jamb on that side.

About .50 m. west of the group of stones described in the last paragraph is an erect set stone .80 m. long, .15 m. thick and .35 m. high. Its relation to the group cannot be defined on the surface evidence. About 1 m. further westward a large prostrate slab (not on plan) is almost totally buried in the upcast of burrowing animals. Some 3 m. further westward is another slab partially concealed in upcast measuring at least 1.25 m. by 1.25 m. and .30 m. thick. Just 2 m. to the west of it an erect stone, .80 m. long, .10 m. thick and .40 m. high, is apparently not firmly set. Around it are several loose blocks .75 m. to .50 m. in maximum dimension. Some 5 m. to the west of this stone, set outside the mound in the bog, is a stone .90 m. long, .20 m. thick and .90 m. high. Though very firmly set its relation to the tomb is doubtful.

The classification of the monument as a Court Cairn depends on the long mound, the apparent court structure in the eastern end and the probable subsidiary chamber structure near the centre. The partially concealed slabs west of this structure suggest the possible presence of further subsidiaries. Without excavation, however, certainty as to the details is impossible.

101. Cloondaff. O.S. 58: 16: 3 (87·8 cm., 12·7 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 100-200. M 072 999.

Court Cairn

The tomb is situated near the centre of the broad valley of Glenhest about a quarter of a mile west of the north-west corner of Beltra Lough. The land in the valley floor is gently undulating with some grassland and arable on the low hills and ridges and wet marsh and bog in the lower parts. High barren mountains flank the valley on both sides. The tomb lies on the south-east side of a low ridge of poorish farmland overlooking the boggy flats around the lake.

The site lies in the corner of a field and is somewhat obscured by scrub and field fences. It is partially ruined. A gallery 4·50 m. long, orientated approximately ESE-WSW, is divided into two chambers. Outside the entry to the east, one courtstone is visible.

The rear chamber is 2·50 m. long. The western end of the gallery is closed by a slightly gabled backstone 1·35 m. long, ·85 m. high and ·25 m. thick. One long slab forms the southern side of the rear chamber. On the opposite side one sidestone adjoining the backstone is in position. A second sidestone adjoining this is forced inwards and a third stone, which may have completed the side-walling of this chamber, lies almost prostrate across the gallery. The position of the sidestone beside the backstone suggests that the northern side of the rear chamber may have curved outwards, in contrast with the straight opposite side.

The segmenting jambs are placed longitudinally 1·35 m. apart. They each measure ·80 m. long, ·20 m. thick and about ·35 m. high. The southern jamb is only slightly inside the line of the long southern sidestone of the rear chamber. The edge of a long corbel slab appears outside this sidestone and jamb.

The front chamber is 2·00 m. long from between the segmenting jambs to the gallery entry. It is 2·10 m. wide. A long sidestone is present on either side. These are set more or less parallel and lie outside the line of the jambs so that the jamb segmentation stands out most clearly when seen from the eastern side, cf. Rosbeg (Ma. 84). One good entry jamb, set transversely, is present at the southern side of the entrance. It measures at least ·90 m. long, ·30 m. high and ·25 m. thick. Opposite it, but greatly obscured by roots and earth, the top of a stone appears. This may well be a matching entry jamb. The width of the entry cannot be measured accurately but was probably a narrow gap of not more than ·50 m. The area east of the entrance is much obscured by the heavy fence which runs north-south a metre or two east of the entrance. However, the top of one courtstone, ·60 m. long, ·30 m. high and ·15 m. thick, appears ·50 m. south-east of the southern entry jamb.

There appears to be some cairn remains around the site and the gallery area is somewhat hollowed out below the level of the surrounding ground. However, no cairn outline is traceable and the heavy stone fences on the east and south have probably interfered with it.

This site was discovered by Father Martin Gillespie after the volume was passed for press. It was possible to include it on the maps, in the indexes and in the numbers cited throughout the text, but it was not feasible to insert it on the orientation diagram (Fig. 70) nor to include a plan or photographs.

APPENDIX

(a) *Destroyed Sites probably to be Accepted as Genuine Megalithic Tombs*

1. **Glencastle.** O.S. 17: 12: 1 (71.0 cm., 29.2 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 50-100. F 766 279.

At the position indicated above, immediately south of the road and resting against the fence, is a massive slab, 3.40 m. by 2.00 m. and .30 m. to .50 m. thick, which may be the remains of the monument destroyed c. 1836 by the engineer Knight during the construction of the road from Crossmolina to Belmullet.

Knight: *Account of Erris in the Irish Highlands and the Atlantic Railway* (Dublin, 1836), 110.
Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLII (1912), 137.

2. **Knocknanny.** O.S. 21: 13: 5 (9.0 cm., 5.5 cm.). Not marked. O.D. 200-300. G 091 248.

On the western side of a broad ridge an old field fence (not marked on the map) runs westwards in the direction of a marshy hollow. A rough track passes the western end of the fence. The fence is about 1.50 m. wide and 1 m. high but towards the west it broadens to upwards to 3 m. wide and is 1.50 m. high. For the last 5 m. or so, many heavy stones are included in it—several of them split by fire. One heavy piece, 2.00 m. by 1.35 m. and .30 m. thick, lies over other large blocks. Near the fence, on the north, is a large prostrate slab 2.40 m. by 1.20 m. and .50 m. thick. In the south side of the fence faces of several upright stones appear. The whole could be the remains of a megalithic tomb but concealment by the fence structure and the obvious disturbance and breakage of the large stones make certainty impossible.

About sixteen years ago a bronze rapier (now in the National Museum) was discovered in a hole dug about 1 m. south of the fence and 5 m. from the west end. It was stated locally that a tradition existed that a tiny fairy man appeared at the site. This story seems to be older than the date of the discovery of the rapier.

3. **Ballina.** O.S. 30: 11: 5 (59.4 cm., 20.6 cm.). "Fert Echtra (Site of) Princess' Grave." O.D. 50-100. G 241 197.

This monument has been totally obliterated and the site is now surrounded by a modern housing estate. The Ordnance Survey Letters (1838) state: "This grave is now much destroyed, but as much of it remains as will satisfy the antiquarian that it is of that class of sepulchres, which were used in Ireland in pagan times, such as the bed of Calann more near Slieve Calann in Derry. . . . Only the east side of this grave remains, it is formed of large stones laid perpendicularly. The west side and the flags which were laid horizontally from side to side, have been removed and the interior is filled up with stones and rubbish. It is now called by tradition Leaba Liabadoir, and believed to be the grave of a giant called Liabadoir, who was killed by another called Conan, but this is a fabrication of the story tellers of modern times." The Field Notes for the Ordnance Survey Hill Name Book describes it thus: "This grave which is locally termed a giant's grave stands 10 by 4 yards about 2 feet above the surface. . . ."

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 117, Tirawley No. 24.
Stokes: *Revue Archéologique* (1882), 16.
J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 284 (footnote) and 287.
O.S.L., 14/E.18, 56, 71-72, 81.

(b) Sites marked "Cromlech" Etc. on O.S. maps which are Not Accepted as Megalithic Tombs

4. **Dooncarton or Glengad.** O.S. 4: 13: 6 (20.0 cm., 5.2 cm.). "Dermot and Grania's Bed." O.D. 100-200. F 812 381.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. An enormous split rock. Natural feature.

Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLII (1912), 132.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 179 (footnote).

5. **Annagh Beg.** O.S. 14: 9: 6 (22.6 cm., 17.6 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200. G 107 324.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. A group of six large irregular-shaped blocks lying beside a fence. They form no recognizable arrangement and though they are all very heavy blocks they do not appear to be set in the ground. Their maximum dimensions vary from .80 m. to 1.80 m. They may be the result of dumping consequent on field clearance.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 116, Tirawley No. 13.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site O.

6. **Rathfrankpark.** O.S. 15: 9: 1 (3.5 cm., 27.3 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to Ma. 35). O.D. 100. G 184 333.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. This monument, which was a stone circle, has been totally removed since 1951 and the debris from it has been dumped on the east end of the nearby tomb (Ma. 35).

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 114, Tirawley No. 5 or 6 (mentioned also 114-115 under Tirawley 8-11).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 205.

Rhys: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XXVIII (1898), 233.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285 (Excursion).

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site L.

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 183-184.

7. **Rathfran.** O.S. 15: 9: 2 (11.0 cm., 28.9 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to No. 8). O.D. 100-200. G 192 335.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. This is the more northerly of the two monuments marked under the name "Cromlechs" in Rathfran on the current edition of the map. It is a stone circle consisting of some sixteen stones five of which are now prostrate. Those remaining erect are from .50 m. to 1.60 m. high. The stones vary from .85 m. to 2.00 m. in length and from .40 m. to 1.20 m. in thickness. The area enclosed measures 17.00 m. (N-S) by 19.00 m. (E-W).

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 113-114, Tirawley No. 2 or 3 (mentioned also 114-115 under Tirawley 8-11).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawly* (Dublin, 1841), 205.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285 (Excursion).

J.R.S.A.I., XXIX (1899), 63 (Photographic Collection).

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site J.

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 184 and 233.

8. **Rathfran.** O.S. 15: 9: 2 (10.6 cm., 28.4 cm.). "Cromlechs" (applies also to No. 7).
O.D. 100-200. G 192 334.

The monument is marked by the symbol for a rock but is not named on O.S. 6" 1837. It is the more southerly of the two monuments marked under the name "Cromlechs" in Rathfran on the current edition of the map. It consists of a roughly oval mound with some nine embedded stones, from .80 m. to 1.65 m. in maximum dimension, visible along the perimeter. The mound which is up to 1.00 m. high measures about 11.50 m. (E-W) by 9.00 m. (N-S). None of the stones along the perimeter appear to be set and the mound itself is used as a dump for field stones. A stone, 1.25 m. long, .80 m. thick and .40 m. high, is set erect about 5.00 m. north of the monument. Though in its present condition the nature of the monument must remain doubtful it may well have been a stone circle similar to No. 7.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 113-114, Tirawley No. 2 or 3 (mentioned also 114-115 under Tirawley 8-11).

Otway: *Sketches in Erris and Tyrrawley* (Dublin, 1841), 205.

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 285 (Excursion).

J.R.S.A.I., XXIX (1899), 63 (Photographic Collection).

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 161-197, Site K.

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 184 and 233.

9. **Belladooan.** O.S. 21: 6: 2 (35.3 cm., 40.3 cm. approx.) northern group and (35.7 cm. 38.2 cm. approx.) southern group. "Cromlechs" (applies to three sites) and "Cromlechs" (applies to three sites). O.D. 100-200. G 119 284 (northern group), G 120 282 (southern group).

No remains of these six sites can be identified on the ground. They were shown on the Original Ordnance Survey maps and the reports on which the entry was made are to be found in the Ordnance Survey Letters, Memoranda and Name Book. However, the information given does not seem to warrant their acceptance as destroyed megalithic tombs. Some confusion regarding megalithic remains seems to have occurred during the Original Survey in this area and it is doubtful if, in fact, the sites marked are other than those of erratics or natural outcrop.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 116, Tirawley Nos. 16-19.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 182.

O.S.L., 14/E.18, 276. cf. O.S. Memoranda (1838), 118.

10. **Cloyrawer.** O.S. 21: 6: 6 (38.6 cm., 34.8 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200.
G 123 278.

Marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. A rectangular heap of large stones, some fractured, approximately 6.00 m. by 2.00 m. Two stones appear to be set. One, at the south-east, is 1.10 m. by .65 m. and .80 m. high, and the other, at the north-west, is 1.50 m. by .55 m. and 1.00 m. high. The whole may be the result of land clearance and apart from the name there is no evidence that the site was ever a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 116, Tirawley No. 20.

de Valera: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXI (1951), 182.

11. **Belleek.** O.S. 30: 12: 1 (69.9 cm., 27.8 cm.). "Cromlech (site of)." O.D. 50.
G 252 204.

The site is marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. The O.S. Letters state: "In Col. Gore's demesne on a hill rising over the River Moy, there is a Druidical (or sepulchral?) circle of stones. There are three upright stones on the summit of the hill, which evidently supported a cromlech, which was long since removed. The circle is, as

usual, at the base of the hill. Col. Gore has erected (sunk) an ice house in the same hill, which future antiquarians will be apt to make a part of a Druidical temple."

The hill has been used as a quarry and the whole area is now planted with trees. At the edge of the quarry some large displaced stones may mark the site. The whole is extremely doubtful and on the evidence cannot be accepted as the site of a megalithic tomb. Immediately to the south of the hill is a round mound which seems to be a cairn of large stones.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 117, Tirawley No. 23.
O.S.L., 14/E.18, 73.

12. Keel East. O.S. 42: 11: 5 (54.7 cm., 16.7 cm.). "Cromlech Tumulus." O.D. 500. F 648 076.

This site is marked "Cromlech Tumulus" on O.S. 6" 1837. The remains appear as a mound of earth and stones, approximately 14.00 m. (E-W) and 8.00 m. (N-S), with fairly large slabs lying loose or placed on edge on it. Apparently overlying the western portion is a round mound, approximately, 5.00 m. in diameter and 1.50 m. high, hollowed in the centre. Set into the eastern portion of the monument is a rectangular structure of dry-stone work running parallel to the long axis of the mound. North and south of this, stones placed on edge, seem to be the remains of other compartments. Placed centrally in the monument are two upright stones which do not seem to be deeply set in the ground. They are superficially like jambs and are each about .70 m. high and .65 m. apart. Between them, almost flush with the sod, is a low slab which may be a threshold. This arrangement looks like a portal but the entrance through it, at right angles to the long axis of the mound, does not appear to lead to any chamber. A few set stones are near by. Apart from these, the vast majority of the stones in the eastern part of the structure are quite loose, though many of them are placed on edge.

The site does not seem to have been greatly altered since 1838. O'Donovan, in the Ordnance Survey Letters, treats it as a "Cemetery" . . . "much disfigured by the natives who have converted the square graves into *fialtauns* or lamb houses. At the west side of this group of graves is a small *tumulus* hollowed at the top and containing a few small loose stones in the hollow. This is said to have been a kiln in ancient times, but I think it a sepulchral tumulus." Westropp refers to it as "a curious monument called a 'cromlech-tumulus' or chambered mound, but really a multiple *clochan* or hut." O'Kelly refers to the previous presence of cup-marked stones (probably meaning Borlase Site G) and takes the structure to the east to be a modern sheep-fold. Piggott and Powell treat the monument as a tomb containing a gallery with some indications of corbelling. We find it impossible to accept this. There can be little doubt that the rectangular structure is, in fact, a lamb-shelter. The slight overlapping of the loose stones at the inner end is partly due to misplacement though a degree of overlapping may have been present in the original walling of the shelter. To refer to it as corbelling in a megalithic context is completely misleading.

The position, therefore, as regards the whole monument is that while it is impossible without excavation categorically to deny that sites such as this may be the remnants of megalithic monuments, the evidence is totally inadequate to admit of its inclusion in any list of tombs. The most likely explanation is that it is the ruins of one or more houses with lamb-shelters built into the eastern end. The small circular mound may be the result of disturbance or may be the collapse of a circular hut or kiln. The pair of jamb-stones may represent a door though it is admittedly difficult to reconstruct a house to which it would give access.

The feature marked "Danish Ditch" appears, at present, as a low grassy terrace running from Ma. 61 in a south-westerly direction at first and continuing westwards towards the complex described above. The O.S. 6" 1837 indicates that the "Ditch" turned south from Ma. 61 and continued southwards just west of the townland boundary for about 200 yards. Its nature and date must be left indefinite.

The interpretation and correlation of the various accounts of the Achill monuments has led to considerable confusion. The following is a summary of the position. (For convenience Wood-Martin's sites are referred to by the system of letters employed by Borlase.)

The genuine megalithic tombs, Keel East (Ma. 61), Keel East (Ma. 62), Bal of Dookinelly (Ma. 63) and Doogort West (Ma. 64) correspond to Borlase C, J, D, and A respectively. We located Borlase B and it proved to be an anomalous complex of ill-defined stone enclosures which cannot be taken as a megalithic tomb. We have given a detailed description of this site *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 217-219. We also located the area known as Tonalochra (Tamhnach Luachra) but were unable to find Borlase E which is called "Tonalorcha" by Wood-Martin. However, Wood-Martin's description indicates that it is not a megalithic tomb. We were unable to locate Borlase F the position of which is very vague in Wood-Martin's account. It is described as a ruined cist but both description and plan are quite unconvincing and especially as erect slabs are common on the mountainside the nature of this site must remain doubtful. The remaining sites (Borlase G to I) seem best explained as included in the complex "Cromlech Tumulus" described above, though the correlation with Wood-Martin's account, especially with Wakeman's drawings, is unsatisfactory. Extensive search in the vicinity failed to reveal any other features which would permit identification with G to I.

A bibliography of the Achill sites is appended below.

- Ordnance Survey Letters, Co. Mayo*, 14/E.18, 341-343.
Ordnance Survey Memoranda (1838) Mayo, 136-138.
Ordnance Survey Name Book, Par. Achill, No. 6.
 Cæsar Otway: *A Tour in Connaught* (Dublin, 1839), 370-371.
 Wood-Martin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XVIII (1887-1888) 367 ff. Reprinted in *R.S.A.I. Extra Volume for 1888-1889*, 238 ff.
 Wood-Martin: *Pagan Ireland* (London, 1895), 280.
 Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland* (London, 1897), 119-122.
 Westropp: *R.S.A.I.*, *Antiquarian Handbook Series, No. VI* (1905), 34-36. Previously published as *R.S.A.I. Guide to Sea Excursion* 1904, 35-37.
 Westropp: *P.R.I.A.*, XXXI (1911), *Clare Island Survey* (Part 2), 2-3.
 Westropp: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLIV (1914), 300-301.
 O'Kelly: *National Museum Topographical Files* also in *National Monuments Branch O.P.W.*
 Piggott and Powell: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXVII (1947), 136 ff.
 de Valera and Ó Nualláin: *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXX (1950), 199-226.
 de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), (MA. 20), (MA. 21), (MA. 22).

13. Tallagh. O.S. 43: 12: 6 (90.8 cm., 17.5 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 0-50. F 784 074.

This feature is marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. It consists of several large slabs at the edge of a bank at the sea-shore. Soil has been eroded from under the slabs exposing smaller stones and probably some bed-rock. The whole appears to be of natural origin.

J.R.S.A.I., XLVIII (1918), 100 (Photographic Collection).

14. Kildun. O.S. 44: 13: 5 (8.8 cm., 3.6 cm.). "Giant's Grave." (Shown in "Burial Ground.") O.D. 50-100. F 795 059.

This feature was shown on O.S. 6" 1837 as a "Burial Ground." The name "Giant's Grave" first appears on O.S. 6" revision of 1893. At the site is a mound about 15.00 m. by 10.00 m. and up to 1.00 m. high. Two pillar-stones, one with an inscribed cross in

circle, are set upright on the mound. About forty yards westwards are two small heaps of stones about 5.00 m. diameter and .75 m. high. There is no reason to assume that a megalithic tomb existed here.

J.R.S.A.I., XLVIII (1918), 100 (Photographic Collection).

15. **Knockfarnaght.** O.S. 47: 7: 2 (55.5 cm., 41.4 cm.). "Cromlech (site of)." O.D. 200. G 137 093.

The monument is shown on O.S. 6" 1837 as "Cromlech" and is shown within a large complex system of ring-walls marked "Knockfarnaght Stone Circles" on the map. Much of this is now concealed in heather and overgrowth but a full description of the site, together with plan, sections and photograph, are given by Knox. The "Cromlech" consists of four stones. Two, set close together, lean outwards in opposite directions. That to the south is at least 1.25 m. long (its west end is concealed), .20 m. thick and .75 m. high. The opposite stone may not be in situ. It is 1.50 m. long, .30 m. thick and .90 m. in height. Its north end rests on a block 1.00 m. by 1.00 m. by .40 m. A fourth stone, the top only of which is visible, can be seen under the stone leaning northwards. The nature of the site is uncertain, but without further evidence there is no reason to accept it as the remains of a megalithic tomb.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 118, Tirawley No. 26.

Knox: *J.R.S.A.I.*, XLVIII (1918), 162. (Pl. Ph.).

J.R.S.A.I., XXVIII (1898), 283 (Excursion).

J.R.S.A.I., XLVIII (1918), 100 (Photographic Collection).

O.S.L., 14/E.19, 184.

16. **Cuillaun.** O.S. 62: 14: 3 (44.0 cm., 9.0 cm.). "Giant's Grave." O.D. 200-300. M 416 990.

This site is not shown on the original 6" 1837. On the 1893 edition, however, the site is marked and named "Giant's Grave." An error seems to have been made at the time of this Revision insofar as the nearby megalithic tomb (Ma. 82) appears on the 1837 map as a "Giant's Grave" but not on subsequent editions and the site here dealt with appears on the maps subsequent to 1837 as a "Giant's Grave."

The site consists of an enormous block, 2.50 m. in maximum dimension and .75 m. thick, resting partly on the ground and in places on small stones up to .40 m. in maximum dimension. The block may well be an erratic and it would seem that the ground beneath it has been hollowed away in places, perhaps by animals. Whatever may be the nature of the site it can certainly be rejected as a megalithic tomb. A small low mound around the block may be the result of cultivation.

17. **Killadangan.** O.S. 87: 11: 2 (61.1 cm., 27.6 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 0-50. L 943 826.

The monument is marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837 and is shown to be situated inside a large oval enclosure. The map also shows a circle of standing stones a short distance south-west of the enclosure. It is now difficult to trace the enclosure on the ground and the circle of stones seems to have been entirely removed. The "Cromlech" at present consists of a line of five stones, four erect and one prostrate, orientated roughly NNE-SSW. The first stone at the NNE is .80 m. by .35 m. and .45 m. high. The second stone is .40 m. from the last and is 1.00 m. by .60 m. and 1.00 m. high. There is a gap of .70 m. between the second and the third stone. This stone is 1.00 m. by .90 m. and 1.00 m. high. The fourth stone, which is 1.00 m. from the last, is split. It is 1.00 m. by

·70 m. and 1·20 m. high. The prostrate stone lies ·20 m. from the last. It is ·90 m. by ·50 m. by ·40 m. On present evidence these stones cannot be accepted as the remains of a megalithic tomb. They may have been related to the circle of stones since removed.

J.R.S.A.I., XLVIII (1918), 100 (Photographic Collection).
O.S.L., 14/E.18, 433.

18. **Cogaula.** O.S. 89: 16: 3 (85·9 cm., 9·5 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 100-200.
M 164 203.

This feature was marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. It is a large slab 2·00 m. by 1·50 m. and ·70 m. thick resting on limestone crag which is crushed beneath it. The site is entirely natural.

Borlase: *The Dolmens of Ireland*, 125, Carra No. 1.
Stokes: *Revue Archéologique* (1882), 16.
O.S.L., 14/E.19, 57.

19. **Turlough.** O.S. 92: 12: 5 (84·0 cm., 15·3 cm.). "Cromlech." O.D. 300-400.
M 455 803.

This feature was marked "Cromlech" on O.S. 6" 1837. It consists of a mound 5·00 m. in diameter and from ·25 m. to ·50 m. high. No megalithic structure is visible nor does it seem likely that any is present. The mound is used as a dump for field stones. It cannot on present evidence be accepted as the site of a megalithic tomb.

20. **Bunnadober.** O.S. 118: 9: 4 (0·2 cm., 22·0 cm.). "Labbadermot." O.D. 100.
M 168 624.

This feature was marked "Labbadermot" on O.S. 6" 1837 but was not shown as an antiquity. It consists of a pot-hole and cave and is entirely natural.

PART TWO:
DISCUSSION

PART II — DISCUSSION

I. MORPHOLOGY

Of the 101 megalithic tombs known in Co. Mayo, sixty-one are classified as court cairns, nineteen as wedge-shaped gallery graves and six as portal dolmens, while fifteen remain unclassified. Several of the unclassified examples, e.g., Creggaun (Ma. 75), Prebaun (Ma. 72) and Glenultra (Ma. 4 and 5) have features more consistent with the court cairn class than with other types and this bears out the probability already clearly indicated by the dominance of court cairns among the classified specimens that the majority of the fifteen unclassified examples do, in fact, belong to this class.

Under each section of the discussion which follows the court cairns, portal dolmens and wedge-shaped gallery graves will be dealt with in that order. The first section deals with morphology and the second with distribution. No scientific excavation has been carried out on any Co. Mayo megalithic tomb and no finds are recorded.¹ The indirect evidence from analogy with finds from tombs elsewhere will be referred to briefly in the concluding section on the place of the Co. Mayo tombs within the Irish series.

COURT CAIRNS

The sixty-one court cairns recorded in Co. Mayo represent the greatest number of tombs of this class recorded for any Irish county. The range of varieties among them is considerable. The morphology of the Irish court cairns has been discussed in detail by one of us in a paper published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*.² Since the completion of the main body of this article in 1957 sixty-four further sites have been recognized or verified as court cairns, including thirty-six in Co. Mayo, but while these have added considerably to our knowledge of several features, they have tended to confirm rather than alter the findings set out in the earlier work. In the discussion of the morphology which follows, the various features are dealt with in the same general order as in the court cairn paper to facilitate comparison with similar features in other counties.

Cairn and Revetment

Some evidence for cairn is apparent in all the court cairns in Co. Mayo, though in many cases peat cover obscures the shape, e.g., Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 39), Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), while in others denudation is such that the surface traces give little indication of original dimensions and shape. However, in many instances there is sufficient evidence clearly to show that a long cairn was present and there is no evidence for any other type of cairn. It is only where kerbing is well preserved and exposed that exact shape and dimensions can be ascertained. While there is no example in Co. Mayo in which kerbing is exposed around the whole edge, at four sites Rathoonagh (Ma. 25), Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27), Ballybeg (Ma. 31) and Ballybeg (Ma. 56) the present cairn-shape, together with portions of kerbing clearly indicate long straight-sided cairns narrowing from front to rear. This design, normal throughout the whole Irish series, is further evidenced by a few reasonably clear cairn edges as at Ballyglass (Ma. 14), Ardagh (Ma. 54) and Ballyduffy (Ma. 69).

1. But see additional note to Behy (Ma. 3), p. 5.

2. de Valera: "The Court Cairns of Ireland," *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 9-140.

Good evidence for the design of the front of the tombs is available at Ballybeg (Ma. 31), Rathoonagh (Ma. 25) and Ballyglass (Ma. 14), where an incurved frontal forecourt precedes the court, and at Ballybeg (Ma. 56) and Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27), where a straight frontal facade is present. The rear of the cairns is poorly defined but one stone at Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27) and the doubtful evidence for the very short cairns at Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 43) and Keel East (Ma. 61) would tend to suggest a straight end also.

The evidence for cairn-shape in the dual-court cairns in Co. Mayo is slight but at Cappagh (Ma. 86) and in the dual-court component of Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) a more or less rectangular form is probable enough and the only other dual-court cairn known in the county, Carbad More (Ma. 36) would not be inconsistent with a rectangular form. The evidence from the two centre-court cairns, Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Muingerroon South (Ma. 38)—save that the cairn at Ballyglass (Ma. 13) is long and seems to narrow towards both ends—is not sufficient to define the shape.

Cairn material where exposed, e.g., Aillemore (Ma. 89), Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), Cappagh (Ma. 86), Killimore (Ma. 95), is consistently stone without any apparent use of earth. In several sites, e.g., Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), Ardagh (Ma. 54) and Ballybeg (Ma. 31), quite large boulders are included in the cairn.

Cairn lengths, apart from the composite site at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) which has an overall length of 55 m. and may have been originally slightly longer, range from 40 m. at Ardagh (Ma. 54), 36 m. at Ballybeg (Ma. 31) and 35 m. at Carbad More (Ma. 36) and Ballyglass (Ma. 13) to the exceptionally small cairns 15 m. or 16 m. long at Aillemore (Ma. 89) and Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 43). A length of upwards of 25 m. to 35 m. seems to have been normal and the tomb which gives the clearest indication of original cairn-shape and dimensions, Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27), would, to judge from the exposed kerbstones, have measured 29 m. long, about 17.50 m. wide in the front and about 8 m. wide in the rear.

As indicated above, continuous rows of kerbstones are seldom exposed, the best examples being at Rathoonagh (Ma. 25) and Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27). There are several sites, however, where occasional kerbstones are present, e.g., Ballyduffy (Ma. 69), and many where probable examples are visible, e.g., Ballybeg (Ma. 31) and Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52). There is no evidence for kerbs of dry-stone walling¹ but these would be unlikely to be recognizable without excavation. The existing kerbstones are of moderate height and though without excavation precise heights above old ground level are obviously impossible to obtain, stones protruding about .50 m. to 1 m. would seem normal.

Direct evidence for original cairn height is not available but tombs such as Aillemore (Ma. 89), Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) and Behy (Ma. 3) indicate that the cairn would have reached, and indeed covered, the capstones. A height of about 2.50 m. would seem probable in these cases.

Courts

Three-quarters of the court cairns in Co. Mayo show direct evidence for courts. In forty-one examples courtstones other than gallery entrance jambs are actually visible, ranging in number from the full perimeter defined at Ballyglass (Ma. 13) to one courtstone only at Sralagagh (Ma. 10), Eskeragh (Ma. 47) and Carrowleagh (Ma. 51). In a further four examples, though no certain courtstones are visible, depressions in front of the galleries or curved banks or fences indicate the presence of courts at Behy (Ma. 3), Aghaleague (Ma. 26), Ballymacredmond (Ma. 59) and Killimore (Ma. 95). The absence of surface evidence for courts in one quarter of the Mayo court cairns is largely explicable as due to concealment by bog growth, e.g., Ballybeg (Ma. 28), Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 39), Belderg More (Ma. 7), Glenulra (Ma. 8), and destruction of all courtstones is probable in very few cases only, e.g., Drumgollagh (Ma. 77) and Cloonboy (Ma. 34). There is no reason to assume that any of the series originally lacked courts. In fact the position of the entry jambs to the gallery in some of the sixteen tombs here treated as lacking

1. But see additional note to Behy (Ma. 3), p. 5.

evidence for courts, itself suggests the presence of this feature, e.g., Ballybeg (Ma. 28) and the position of the gallery in the cairn at others, e.g., Shinganagh (Ma. 87) and Aillemore (Ma. 89), likewise suggests that these also had courts.

In all cases where the evidence is sufficient to define the extent of closure the courts are of full-court design. In eighteen specimens this evidence is clear from the courtstones themselves. In a further two cases, Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) and Formoyle (Ma. 90), the position of a single probable courtstone indicates a full-court and in three more, Ballymacredmond (Ma. 59), Tristia (Ma. 45) and Muingerroon South (Ma. 23), the shape of the banking in front of the gallery strongly suggests that a full-court is present. At Coolagagh (Ma. 76) an old plan shows a full-court and at Cartronmacmanus (Ma. 74) hummocks concealing stones may perhaps indicate a full-court of rather exceptional shape. Thus, in well over half the number of examples where any satisfactory evidence for court is present, a full-court design is certainly or probably attested. In no court cairn in Co. Mayo is there evidence for an open-court and in several examples here treated as undefined the remains tend to favour full rather than open courts, e.g., Rooghan (Ma. 32), Ballyholan (Ma. 48) and Ardagh (Ma. 54).

The shape of the courts varies from the almost circular designs at Carbad More (Ma. 36) and Muingerroon South (Ma. 38) to long ovals at Ballyglass (Ma. 13), Ballybeg (Ma. 31) and Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52). At the gallery ends of the court a distinct flattening of the perimeter to give a more or less right-angled junction between the inner end and the sides of the court is a recurrent feature in courts of all shapes, including the centre-court type. Such a flattening is not usually in evidence at the court entry, even in otherwise more or less symmetrical courts, e.g., Ballybeg (Ma. 31). In several cases, Keel East (Ma. 61), Creevagh More (Ma. 30), Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 16) and Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 43), the court perimeter tends to form a distinct funnel towards the court entry, with the outer segment of one or both arms straightened, giving the court a somewhat pear-shaped plan. These examples are all small tombs. However, in the large courts at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), while the straightening of the sides is not marked, a funnelling towards the court entry occurs which may be analogous to that in the other examples cited. This funnelling is sufficiently attested among the court cairns of Co. Mayo to be considered a distinct style but it cannot, of course, be taken as normal. In some tombs, e.g., Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27), though the inner part of the court is strongly flattened the outer part appears to have been wider and the court at Keel East (Ma. 62) is to some extent almost a reversal of the outward funnelling. Despite the regularity of some of the courts in Co. Mayo, e.g., Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Ballybeg (Ma. 31), rather irregular alignment of courtstones is not infrequent. Many individual irregularities are probably accidental and of comparatively minor significance.

The variation in size among the Mayo courts is considerable. The centre-court at Ballyglass (Ma. 13), 11.50 m. long and 7.25 m. wide, is the largest, while diminutive courts are present at Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 43), 2.75 m. long and 3.75 m. wide, and Creggaun (Ma. 55), 3.50 m. long. Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), 8 m. long, and Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27), 8.50 m. long and 8.50 m. wide, are the largest terminal courts, while the small centre-court at Muingerroon South (Ma. 38), 4.20 m. long by about 4 m. wide, contrasts with Ballyglass (Ma. 13).

The courtstones may be slabs or more rounded blocks. There is a distinct tendency in many sites for the flatter surfaces, especially of split-boulders to be faced inwards, e.g., Coolagagh (Ma. 76) and Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 16).

The entries to the courts, save in the two centre-court cairns, Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Muingerroon South (Ma. 38), are placed terminally in the cairn opposite the gallery entrance. At Ballybeg (Ma. 31) four well-matched flat-topped stones, two of which belong to the curved frontal facade and two to the court itself, form a narrow straight-sided entry and a similar arrangement may have existed in other examples, e.g., Ballyglass (Ma. 14) and Rathoonagh (Ma. 25). At Keel East (Ma. 61) and in the laterally entered court at Ballyglass (Ma. 13) long stones form the walls of the entry. A comparable design is suggested by a single stone at Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 43). The entry at Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27) is also slab-lined but more than one stone seems required on each side and at least two stones on each side are required at Muingerroon South (Ma. 38).

The exact nature of the court entry is not clear in many sites though the narrow parallel-sided type of alley, represented in the above examples, could well accord with the evidence in several other instances, e.g., Ballybeg (Ma. 56) and Keel East (Ma. 62). However, in both the courts at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) a bottle-necked shape for the outer end of the court is suggested and it is possible that in this case no distinct straight-sided alley between the frontal facade and the court existed, but that the court narrowed to meet a gap in the facade. Such an alternative design is quite consistent with the evidence at Creevagh More (Ma. 30). The articulation of the narrowing court directly on to the facade, rather than the junction of facade and court by an alley as at Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27), etc., or the formation of the alley by matched stones of the facade and court as at Ballybeg (Ma. 31), would tend to make the distinction between open and full-courts less easy to define.

Besides the two clearly defined laterally placed court-entries at the centre-court sites of Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Muingerroon South (Ma. 38) details in three other sites suggest a somewhat comparable feature. At Rosdoagh (Ma. 2) on the northern side of the court a lateral entry is strongly suggested but owing to the difficulty of exact interpretation of the western end of the court it is not possible to decide if, in fact, this is the real entry. At Ballyglass (Ma. 14) in the centre of the northern side two especially large court-stones flank a space 1.50 m. wide in which two much lower stones stand. The court entry at this site is clearly terminal and if the arrangement in the northern side is significant, it seems best taken as a reminiscence of a lateral entry rather than itself fully functional. At Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 16) a fine upright stone outside the eastern side of the court may not be well set and cannot safely be taken as indicating an entry real or vestigial.

In a few cases only is the court perimeter sufficiently continuous to show whether the stones of the court were deliberately graded or not. In the centre-court cairns of Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Muingerroon South (Ma. 38) no grading is apparent and a more or less even height is maintained. At Ballybeg (Ma. 31) the stones in the outer half of the court are lower than those in the inner portion. The slope of the ground gives a comparable result at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52). Some emphasis on the court entry stones is to be noted at Keel East (Ma. 62) and Ballybeg (Ma. 31). The exact relation of the great stone standing at the eastern end of Creevagh More (Ma. 29) to the court is not clear. It may have marked the entry through a facade or may, though analogies in our area are not forthcoming, be a separate standing stone such as has been noted in long barrows elsewhere.¹

Especially prominent courtstones flanking the jambs at the entry to the gallery are a feature of many Irish court cairns. This is not well represented in Co. Mayo, though it is found at Ballybeg (Ma. 31). In connection with such tall flanking stones, which may well have had the function of revetting the high cairn near the gallery entrance, the corbel-like stone resting on the stone flanking the northern jamb at Sralagagh (Ma. 10) may be noted. This may be compared with a similar occurrence at Creevykeel,² Co. Sligo and with the large blocks at Croaghbeg,³ Co. Donegal. Such blocks laid above the courtstones would serve the same purpose of revetment as high flanking stones. The general appearance of the courts in Co. Mayo does not suggest that they were originally filled or blocked.

Main Gallery

In twenty-one of the sixty-one court cairns in Co. Mayo the number of main chambers in the gallery can be satisfactorily determined on surface evidence. All of these are two-chambered. In a further twenty-six examples the number of chambers is reasonably clearly indicated. Again with the solitary exception of Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 17), which seems to have had more than two chambers, all appear to be two-chambered. None of the remaining fourteen, which are all too damaged or concealed to permit a

1. Piggott: *The Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles*, (Cambridge, 1954), 138, 150.

2. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXIX (1939), 59.

3. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 109.

decision as to chamber number, have features suggesting a gallery of more than two chambers. One of them, Rosdoagh (Ma. 2), could possibly have a single-chambered gallery preceded by an ante-chamber but it is also possible that the gallery extended beyond the stone which now seems to form the end. As a whole then, the evidence from the court cairns in Co. Mayo shows that the two-chambered design is very markedly dominant and it is most likely that galleries consisting of any other number of main chambers are exceedingly rare or perhaps even absent.

In the majority of sites the gallery entrance is between a pair of jambs which narrow the entry and function also as courtstones. In a few sites, ante-chambers precede the main chambers. At Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), Drumgollagh (Ma. 77) and at the eastern end of Cappagh (Ma. 86), a jamb-entry to the ante-chamber is present with a sidestone running between it and the entry jamb of the first main chamber. At Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), in the eastern court of the more westerly component, the entry to the ante-chamber does not appear to have jambs and the sidestones of the ante-chamber articulate directly with the court. At Ardagh (Ma. 54) and at the western end of Cappagh (Ma. 86) the surviving stones seem to be ante-chamber sidestones rather than jambs, but whether actual jambs were present at the entry from the court to the ante-chamber remains in doubt. At Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) in the eastern structure the ante-chamber consists virtually of a doubling of the entry jambs to the gallery. In all these examples it seems that the ante-chamber was distinctly narrower than the main chambers. The long axis of the ante-chambers at Drumgollagh (Ma. 77), Ardagh (Ma. 54) and Cappagh (Ma. 86) is to one side of that of the main chambers, giving a lop-sided design. Such a design is not very noticeable at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) though the entry to the most easterly structure may well have had this form. Comparison between these ante-chambers and the entry elements preceding subsidiary chambers, which sometimes have a similar lopsided design, e.g., Creevykeel, Co. Sligo, seems apparent. In the gallery at Rosdoagh (Ma. 2) the first element may be a very short front chamber or an ante-chamber. If an ante-chamber it may have been, unlike the other examples in Co. Mayo, of approximately equal width to the main gallery.

The height of the entry jambs to the main galleries varies in relation to the gallery sidestones and the courtstones. Massive entry jambs, protruding above the courtstones and gallery sidestones, occur in relatively few sites, e.g., Creevagh More (Ma. 30), Eskeragh (Ma. 47) and Ballyduffy (Ma. 69). The entry jambs are usually well matched and may be blocks of more or less square plan or slabs of long rectangular plan. Such slabs may be set with the long axis transverse to the long axis of the gallery, e.g., Sralagagh (Ma. 10), Cartronmacmanus (Ma. 74) and Ballybeg (Ma. 31) or less frequently longitudinally in relation to the main axis of the gallery, e.g., Aillemore (Ma. 89) and Cappagh (Ma. 86). Very good flat-topped slabs are present at several sites, e.g., Sralagagh (Ma. 10) and the selection of thin slabs for the entry jambs at Ballybeg (Ma. 31) in a tomb where heavy blocks are used for most of the rest of the orthostatic structure, should be noted. Sills at the entries are evident in two cases only, Aillemore (Ma. 89) and Belderg More (Ma. 7), both of moderate height. It is, of course, possible, especially in deeply embedded sites, that comparatively low sills could be concealed.

Segmenting jambs, like the entry jambs, vary considerably in height in relation to the sidestones and may be transverse or longitudinal. In some cases, e.g., Cappagh (Ma. 86), Aillemore (Ma. 89) and Rosbeg (Ma. 84), the jambs rise well above the level of the sidestones but, especially in the transverse type, they may be approximately equal to and are frequently lower than the sides. The transverse type seems rather more common in the segmentation than the longitudinal type but not nearly as markedly so as in the case of entry jambs. The long transverse jambstone at one side of the gallery at Dooncarton (Ma. 1) seems to represent a quite unusual segmentation. The selection of thin flags for segmenting jambs at Ballyglass (Ma. 13) compares with a similar selection in the case of the entry jambs at Ballybeg (Ma. 31). Sills or septal stones set between the segmenting jambs are found in thirteen cases. At Aillemore (Ma. 89), Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), Behy (Ma. 3) and Shanaghy (Ma. 18) the sills leave a clear space through which access to the inner chamber could comparatively

easily be gained. In other cases the septals either reach the full height of the jambs as at Drumgollagh (Ma. 77), Cappagh (Ma. 86), Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) and Bal of Dookinelly (Ma. 63) or to within about .25 m. of it as at Rosbeg (Ma. 84) and Ardagh (Ma. 54). Usually both the sills and septals are set between jambs which are placed longitudinally. In Bal of Dookinelly (Ma. 63) however, the septal overlaps behind the jambs. It is clear that sills and septals perform a useful structural function in the case of longitudinally set jambs to withstand inward pressure. With transverse jambs the length of the jamb itself would suffice without internal support. Moreover, to be fully effective as support between longitudinal jambs, sills would need to reach perhaps to one-third or more of the height of the jambs. However, the full closure achieved in some sites, e.g., Drumgollagh (Ma. 77), would seem to indicate that, in the case of the high septals at least, more than structural function was required. Unless the design of the corbel roof were such as to allow a space between the septal and the covers, and for this any real evidence is lacking, the inner segment of tombs with septal of full or almost full height would appear to have been closed. The peculiar curved top of the segmenting slab at Drumgollagh (Ma. 77), could have afforded, if not access, an opening through which material could be inserted. However, without the support of analogy from other examples, the possibility that this opening was deliberately contrived remains doubtful. It seems best on the evidence as a whole to consider that the inmost section in tombs possessing high septals was virtually sealed off.

In connection with segmentation it is worth noting that in the arrangement of jambs and septals some tombs approach an imbricated design where the jambs are aligned with the sides of one chamber and interlock with those of the next. Such a design is most clearly suggested at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) and Cappagh (Ma. 86). This contrasts with sites where the gallery sides form continuous lines. A tendency towards imbricated design, giving the effect, as it were, of one chamber fitted into the next, is not an uncommon feature in Irish court cairns.

The backstones of galleries are normally set between the ends of the sidestones. In Co. Mayo most of the backstones of court cairns are flat-topped and a height approximately equal to the sidestones is normal, e.g., Ballyglass (Ma. 13), Behy (Ma. 3), Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) and Glenulra (Ma. 9). In several cases the tops are bevelled outwards. Some examples of especially tall backstones occur, Drumgollagh (Ma. 77), Killimore (Ma. 95) and Aillemore (Ma. 89), but the great gabled form known elsewhere, e.g., Cartronplank,¹ Co. Sligo, is not conspicuously represented.

Sidestones of galleries are frequently fairly even in height but as corbelling seems to have been normal, the uneven heights which are present in many tombs are to be expected. The top surface of the sidestones frequently slope down on the outside obviously to take corbels. When split-boulder type stones are used the flat face is regularly placed inwards. There is no evidence in Co. Mayo for dry-stone filling between orthostats but this would, in any case, be unlikely to survive above ground level.

Newly discovered sites add considerably to the examples of tombs preserving more or less intact roof structure. An almost complete roof is present at Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) and Sralagagh (Ma. 10) while at Behy (Ma. 3), Glenulra (Ma. 9), Drumgollagh (Ma. 77) and Keel East (Ma. 61) considerable portions of roof and corbelling remain in position and at Aillemore (Ma. 89), though no capstones are in position, the corbelling is virtually intact. In many other tombs, e.g., Killimore (Ma. 95), Belderg More (Ma. 7) and Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), considerable portions of corbelling, sometimes slightly displaced, are present.

Lintels over the jambs of the galleries are poorly represented. At Killimore (Ma. 95) such a lintel, slightly tilted off the entry jambs, lies partly across the gallery sides. At Ballyglass (Ma. 13) a lintel is in position spanning the segmenting jambs.

Two main types of corbelling are found in the Mayo court cairns depending to a considerable extent on the type of stone used. Corbelling of large comparatively flat slabs in several tiers is represented at many sites. At Aillemore (Ma. 89) and Sralagagh (Ma. 10) this rises in three or more courses pitched at a steep angle and deeply embedded

in the cairn. Where boulder type stones are employed the corbel stones are split-boulders placed with the rounded surface downwards and the flat fractured surface upwards. The flat upper surface slopes sharply downwards towards the outside of the gallery. Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), Ballyglass (Ma. 13) and Creevagh More (Ma. 29) provide good examples of corbelling of this type. Sometimes a mixture of slab corbels and split-boulders is found, e.g., Carrowleagh (Ma. 51). Small stones often crushed by the weight of the superimposed corbels and roof are found between the corbels at Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) and Sralagagh (Ma. 10) and small fragments jammed between corbels at other sites were also probably a deliberate structural device. This feature at Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) bears a striking resemblance to the small stones which frequently occur crushed between the corbels in Passage Graves, e.g., Newgrange and Mound of the Hostages, Tara.

The capstones which survive are quite massive, e.g., Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), Sralagagh (Ma. 10), Drumgollagh (Ma. 77) and the displaced capstones at Ballyglass (Ma. 13). The height of court cairn chambers cannot be exactly determined in any single case but the indications from such sites as Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), Aillemore (Ma. 89), Behy (Ma. 3) and several other sites where orthostats are well exposed, suggests that 2 m. would not be abnormal. In several sites the height diminishes towards the backstone due to the stepping of great overlapping slabs laid above the backstone, e.g., Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), Behy (Ma. 3) and Glenulra (Ma. 9). This arrangement is associated with flat-topped backstones and the outwards bevel of the top edges of such backstones, e.g., Behy (Ma. 3) and Carrowleagh (Ma. 51), is obviously suitable for such a design. On the other hand the gabled type backstone, which is not really represented in Mayo, would seem to favour a design where the side corbelling would bear against the sides of the backstone and the apex of the backstone would itself reach, or nearly approach, the full roof-level. Such a design is probable at Aillemore (Ma. 89) where the backstone approaches the gabled design and the side-corbels are partially keyed against it.

The chambers in the court cairns in Co. Mayo vary considerably in size and, to a certain degree, in shape, but on the whole the two chambers of each gallery tend to be more or less equal. Many chambers are more or less square and from 2 m. to 2.50 m. is a normal dimension, e.g., Ballyglass (Ma. 13), Aillemore (Ma. 89), Aghoo (Ma. 24) and Ballybeg (Ma. 28). In others long more or less rectangular chambers are found, e.g., Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) and Cappagh (Ma. 86). A distinct tendency for the rear chamber to narrow towards the backstone is clear in several sites, e.g., Barnhill Upper (Ma. 27) and Pollnagowna (Ma. 81). A degree of waisting at the segmentation sometimes occurs, e.g., Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) and Cappagh (Ma. 86), but on the whole the court cairns in Mayo tend rather to have a more or less straight alignment of the gallery sides.

Subsidiary chamber set apart from the main galleries are known only in three Co. Mayo court cairns. At Dooncarton (Ma. 1) two jamb and sill arrangements imply two subsidiary chambers opening obliquely towards the rear of the cairn, while at Carrownaglogh (Ma. 100) the ruins of a lateral subsidiary chamber are present. At Aillemore (Ma. 89) a small chamber is set on the main long axis of the cairn some 2.00 m. behind the backstone of the main gallery.

Transepted Galleries and related forms

One of the most noteworthy features of the court cairn series in Co. Mayo is the occurrence of small chambers opening off the gallery in seven or possibly eight sites. At Behy (Ma. 3) a pair of side-chambers give a symmetrically transepted design. At Ballybeg (Ma. 31) and Tristia (Ma. 45) more or less opposed side-chambers are indicated. At Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) a side-chamber off the gallery in the eastern structure of the dual-court component does not appear to be matched on the opposite side. This is also the case at Lecarrowtemple (Ma. 17) and Ballymacredmond (Ma. 59). At Cartronmacmanus (Ma. 74) destruction of the more southern side of the gallery makes it uncertain if the two neat side-chambers on the north were answered on the south. At Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) a small chamber opens off the rear of the most westerly main gallery. The little chamber exposed at Glenulra (Ma. 8) is very similar to the chambers opening

off galleries in other examples but the main gallery structure at this site is so concealed that it cannot be decided exactly how the little chamber was placed in relation to the gallery.

Most of the subsidiary chambers opening into the galleries are more or less rectangular but at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) the side-chamber is of decidedly polygonal design and the same is true of Glenulra (Ma. 8). The entry from the gallery to the side-chambers is through a gap between a pair of sidestones of the main gallery which form entry jambs to the side-chambers, e.g., Behy (Ma. 3) and Cartronmacmanus (Ma. 74). No sill is visible at the entry to any of the side-chambers. However, at Glenulra (Ma. 8) and in the single example of an end-chamber at Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52), a high sill is present between a jamb-entry formed of longitudinally aligned stones. At Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) this is preceded by a little entry element. The whole design here is very close to that of subsidiaries opening to the edge of the cairn in many Irish court cairns, e.g., Tullyshehery, Co. Leitrim.¹ Roofing is extant only at Behy (Ma. 3), where tiers of slab-corbels rising over the sides and back, support covers. It would appear likely that the side-chambers here were lower than the main gallery.

Orientation

The orientation of court cairns in Mayo shows a distinct preference for an alignment of the entrance eastwards of the meridian (see Fig. 70). In the forty-eight sites where the orientation can be determined forty-two face eastwards and six westwards of this line.² This proportion agrees closely with the figures nineteen to three available in 1957. The six tombs orientated west of the north-south line are Ballyglass (Ma. 14), Lecarrow-temple (Ma. 16), Muingerroon South (Ma. 23), Creevagh More (Ma. 30) Keel East (Ma. 61) and Ballyduffy (Ma. 69).

PORTAL DOLMENS

The six sites classified as portal dolmens, Ballyknock (Ma. 11), Ballyknock (Ma. 12), Gortbrack (Ma. 19), Knocknalower (Ma. 20), Doogort West (Ma. 64) and Claggan (Ma. 78), do not warrant a detailed analysis of features. A long cairn aligned roughly north and south is clearly traceable at Ballyknock (Ma. 11). A portal chamber is recognizable at the northern end and several large slabs indicate a structure, possibly of similar design, at the opposite end. At Ballyknock (Ma. 12) no clear cairn base is visible but 17 m. south-westwards of the portal structure a group of large stones might suggest that here also a cairn with chamber structure at both ends may have existed. At Doogort West (Ma. 64) the existing cairn remains tend to suggest a comparatively small round cairn but denudation is obvious and too great reliance cannot be placed on the evidence here. At Knocknalower (Ma. 20) surface evidence also suggests a round cairn but as the surrounding ground is covered in bog it is possible that the exposed stones do not indicate the full extent of the cairn. Too little cairn base survives as surface evidence on the other two sites, Claggan (Ma. 78) and Gortbrack (Ma. 19) to give any useful information as to cairn design. Portal jambs are clearly present at all sites. In most cases they are well-emphasized but at Knocknalower (Ma. 20) they protrude relatively little above the sidestones and at Gortbrack (Ma. 19) no exact comparison between sides and jambs can be made in the present collapsed state of the tomb.

Between the portal jambs door stones are present at Ballyknock (Ma. 11), Ballyknock (Ma. 12) and Knocknalower (Ma. 20) while at Gortbrack (Ma. 19) a door stone lies prostrate between the collapsed portal stones. All these door stones would have closed the entry almost to roof level except that at Ballyknock (Ma. 12) where the top of the door stone is .55 m. lower than the portals. In this case, however, the top of the stone may well be broken. The chamber sides seem normally to have been of single stones but at Knocknalower (Ma. 20) each side consists of two stones. Backstones set out-

1. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 101.

2. The recently discovered site at Cloondaff (Ma. 101) is included in this figure but it was discovered too late for inclusion in the orientation diagram (fig. 68). The entrance is aligned approximately E-S-E.

side the sidestones are in situ at Knocknalower (Ma. 20) and Claggan (Ma. 78). That at Claggan (Ma. 78) is approximately equal in height to the sidestones but at Knocknalower (Ma. 20) the backstone is considerably lower than the sides. At Ballyknock (Ma. 12) a much concealed collapsed slab was probably a backstone and a stone running rather obliquely across the rear of the chamber at Doogort West (Ma. 64) may also be a backstone, perhaps somewhat displaced. In no case is the roof in position. However, heavy roofstones which would cover the whole chamber are represented at all sites save Ballyknock (Ma. 12). All these would seem to have been sufficient to cover the chamber except perhaps that at Knocknalower (Ma. 20).

The entrances face east of the north-south line at Gortbrack (Ma. 19), Knocknalower (Ma. 20), Doogort West (Ma. 64) and Claggan (Ma. 78). In Ballyknock (Ma. 12) a chamber seems to be present at each end of a cairn aligned roughly north and south and the same may possibly have been the case at Ballyknock (Ma. 12).

WEDGE-SHAPED GALLERY GRAVES

Main Chamber

The range of size among the wedge-shaped gallery graves of Co. Mayo is considerable, from the massive structure of Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) to diminutive specimens at Lettera (Ma. 66) and Castlehill (Ma. 67). The overall length of the galleries varies from 9.50 m. at Lisduff (Ma. 93) to 4.20 m. at Srahwee (Ma. 91) and it is very probable that the galleries at Lettera (Ma. 66) and Castlehill (Ma. 67 and 68) were even shorter. The greatest width recorded is 2.00 m. at Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) while the smallest is .90 m. at Lettera (Ma. 66). The walls of the galleries are seldom sufficiently exposed to allow any reliable estimate of the heights of the chambers. In general rather low galleries—seldom exceeding 1.50 m. in height—seem indicated.

The gallery side-walls are orthostatic. They are formed of several stones which tend to diminish in height from the front or more western end to the rear, e.g., Srahwee (Ma. 91) and Carrowcrom (Ma. 60). In some cases the tendency for the width of the gallery to decrease from west to east is quite clear, e.g., Carrowcrom (Ma. 60), Townplots West (Ma. 37) and Callow (Ma. 79), but in others the gallery sides do not appear to form straight lines, e.g., Greenwood (Ma. 88), and at Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) and Lisduff (Ma. 93) the galleries are broadest towards the middle and narrow distinctly at both ends. To what extent this may be due to the possible presence of porticos and east end chambers is not clear (see below).

In ten of the nineteen wedge-shaped galleries east endstones are visible while rubble and fill may conceal such a feature at others, e.g., Carrowcrom (Ma. 60), Doonty (Ma. 73) and Cuillaun (Ma. 82). The endstones are flat-topped and are normally more or less inset between the sidestones, though at Greenwood (Ma. 88) and Lisduff (Ma. 93) the sidestones do not appear to extend beyond the edges of the endstone. In Srahwee (Ma. 91) Knockadoon (Ma. 94) and Greenwood (Ma. 88) a roofstone is present over the endstone and a somewhat displaced roofstone at Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) seems also probably originally to have rested more or less directly on the endstone. In other cases the height of the endstones show that they would have reached to the roof. There is no evidence for an entry feature at the eastern end.

Roofstones rest directly on the orthostats of the gallery but small flat packing stones are inserted occasionally probably to level the roofstones, e.g. Knockadoon (Ma. 94), Srahwee (Ma. 91) and Carrowcrom (Ma. 60). Save at Srahwee (Ma. 91), where it is possible that a single stone may have originally covered the whole of the main chamber, several roofstones seem to have been normal, e.g., Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) and Lisduff (Ma. 93). A decline in roof-height from front to rear is clear at Carrowcrom (Ma. 60) and Srahwee (Ma. 91). At Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) the eastern roofstone now lies at a higher level than that to the west of it but displacement is evident here and the orthostats of the gallery indicate that in the original design the roof was more or less level with perhaps a slight decline to the east.

Portico

Two clear examples of a short portico preceding the main chamber occur, Srahwee (Ma. 91) and Carrowleagh (Ma. 50). The division between the portico and main chamber at Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) is by a high septal achieving full closure. At Srahwee (Ma. 91) however, the slab dividing the portico from the main chamber does not reach fully across the gallery and access is possible between it and the southern side. The absence of porticos in other sites cannot be presumed and in some, details suggesting such a feature are present. At Carrowgarve South (Ma. 53) the arrangement of the two most westerly stones on the southern side of the gallery may indicate a portico and the rather peculiar alignment at Callow (Ma. 79) could perhaps also be explained as such. At Lisduff (Ma. 93) the well matched sidestones at the west might indicate a portico which is perhaps especially probable at this site on account of the length of the gallery. Apart from the stones at the west end of the main chamber at Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) and Srahwee (Ma. 91) the only other tomb where a transverse stone across the west end of a main chamber is present is Carrowcrom (Ma. 60). Here a low stone may be a sill or possibly the butt of a taller septal. The peculiar jamb structure at Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) whether it be an entry feature or a division between a portico and main chamber is unusual. No evidence for the roofing of a portico is found among the wedge-shaped gallery graves in Co. Mayo.

There is no case of a proven east-end chamber. However, at Greenwood (Ma. 88) a stone, not certainly in situ, may separate a small rear chamber from the main chamber. The present condition of the tomb does not permit of certainty as to whether it would have reached fully to the roof or not.

Outer-Walling

Evidence for outer-walling is present at all sites save Lettera (Ma. 66), Castlehill (Ma. 67) and Harefield (Ma. 98) and even at these sites possible hints of such a feature exist. The stones in the outer-walling are especially massive at Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) and rise high above the gallery sites. Breastagh (Ma. 33) may have been comparable. At Srahwee (Ma. 91) the close-set outer-walling is low. The outer-walling along the sides in most cases converges from the front (west) to rear, frequently more acutely than do the gallery sides, e.g. Carrowcrom (Ma. 60), Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) and Doonty (Ma. 73). The plan of the sides and rear of the outer-wall varies from a more or less trapezoidal design with straight sides joining a more or less flat rear as at Carrowcrom (Ma. 60), Doonty (Ma. 73) and Lisduff (Ma. 93) to a distinctly U-shaped design at Carrowleagh (Ma. 50). At Rathfrankpark (Ma. 35) the outer-walling seems actually to widen somewhat for some distance from the front and the wall, when complete, may well have had a somewhat horseshoe shaped form. Carrowgarve South (Ma. 53) may have had a somewhat similar shape.

Evidence for a flat frontal facade is present at several sites. It is reasonably full at Knockadoon (Ma. 94) and Cuillaun (Ma. 82) and there are good indications at Carrowleagh (Ma. 50) and Doonty (Ma. 73), while single stones are present at Callow (Ma. 79) and Lisduff (Ma. 93). At Carrowgarve South (Ma. 53) a collapsed stone may well have belonged to a facade but at Carrowcrom (Ma. 60), though the design of the west ends of the outer-walling could suggest a flat facade, no certainty is possible. At Knockadoon (Ma. 94) it seems clear that the facade continued across the west end of the gallery but present evidence does not show whether the gallery articulated with the facade or was separate from it. In the other examples, as far as the evidence goes, it seems quite likely that the gallery, at least in some cases preceded by a portico, joined the facade. The combined evidence of outer-walling, flat facades and porticos leaves no doubt that the formal entrance was at the western end.

Cairn

Though considerable remains are present at several sites, e.g. Carrowleagh (Ma. 50), Carrowcrom (Ma. 60), Doonty (Ma. 73) and Carrowgarve South (Ma. 53). no reliable outline can be established and no kerb stones are apparent. The gallery at Carrowcrom

(Ma. 60) is embedded almost to the height of the top of the roof, though some modern restoration may have taken place here. It does seem that relatively small cairns, perhaps approximately round, D-shaped or short oval in shape, are indicated. The galleries would seem to have occupied a large proportion of the cairn area and there is certainly no indication of extensive long cairns such as are found with the court cairn series.

Orientation

The orientation of the front of the wedge-shaped galleries in Co. Mayo towards the west maintains the rule so constantly adhered to throughout the whole Irish series of tombs of this class. The diagram (Fig. 71) shows a concentration towards the south-west closely in accord with that noted in Clare.¹

2. DISTRIBUTION

(Maps 1-3 and map in wallet)

None of the three classes of megalithic tombs in Co. Mayo—court cairns, portal dolmens and wedge-shaped gallery graves—conform to any clearly defined rule of siting. Concentrations of tombs occur in several districts but no cemetery pattern is discernible. Among Irish megalithic tombs specific customs of siting and the occurrence of cemeteries are features confined to the passage-grave series and no example of this class has yet been discovered in Co. Mayo. The distribution of the sites in Mayo is considerably influenced by geographical factors and would appear to represent the settlement pattern of the builders of the various types. In the case of the numerous court cairn class this pattern can be traced in some detail.

TOPOGRAPHY OF CO. MAYO

Co. Mayo is 2,084 square miles in extent and a wide variety of soils and landscapes are found within it, from rugged inaccessible mountain spines such as the Muilrea, Achill and Nephin ranges and wide uplands blanketed in peat surrounded by vast expanses of flat bogland covering much of the north-west of the county, to the fertile lowland plain and drumlin regions of the centre and east.²

The long coastline is greatly indented.³ The fiord of Killary Harbour, which marks the southern boundary of the county, is flanked by high steep mountains with the highest peak in the county, Muilrea (2,688 ft.), overlooking it from the north. The coast running northwards from Killary Harbour to Emlagh Point and thence along the southern shore of Clew Bay is sandy save for some rocky headlands. The strip of lowland along the coast is narrow and confined, often to less than a mile in width, by the great mountain chains of Muilrea, Sheeffry and Croagh Patrick and their barren foothills. Around the inner reaches of Clew Bay is a drumlin region extending into the sea where the tops of submerged drumlins appear as myriads of islands. This drumlin land extends eastwards in a broad corridor from the eastern end of the bay but on the north it forms a narrow coastal strip confined by high mountains from Newport to Mulrany. The shore around the drumlin belt is, in general, sandy with mud flats in places and the seaward ends of the drumlins are cliffed.

Beyond Mulrany, around the mountain blocks of Corraun and Achill, the coast is rocky and precipitous save for some sandy stretches along Achill Sound and at Keel Strand in Achill. Along the shores of Achill Sound and northwards to Erris Head in the extreme north-west of the county a much indented sandy shore extends. The low line of

1. *Survey of Megalithic Tombs of Ireland, Vol. I, Co. Clare*, 106.

2. For a description of Mayo see Freeman: *Ireland, a General and Regional Geography* (London, 1960), 402-418 and 431-432.

3. For a description of the coast see *Irish Coast Pilot* (London, 1941), 281-321.

the Mullet Peninsula shelters Blacksod Bay and Broadhaven on either side of the narrow isthmus at Belmullet. The soil on the peninsula is largely sandy with some bog on the higher ground. Around Erris Head the coast is rocky and rises in cliffs but elsewhere on the peninsula it is low and sandy. Broadhaven opens northwards between the cliff-girth heads of Erris and Benwee. The inner reaches of this bay are sandy and the long inlets of Scruwaddacon Bay and the inlet to Barnatra penetrate between low hills to the wide boggy lowlands around Carrowmore Lake. The hinterland along the whole stretch of the west coast of Mayo from Corraun on the northern shores of Clew Bay to Benwee at the mouth of Broadhaven, is a huge extent of flat bogland reaching for several miles to the central mountain spine of north-west Mayo which forms a gigantic "S" from Maumakeogh in the north, through Slieve Fyagh, Nephin Beg and Glennamong to Claggan Mountain and the Corraun Peninsula.

The north coast of Mayo from Benwee Head to Killala Bay is very largely precipitous and inaccessible with mountains in many places virtually eliminating the coastal lowland strip. Along this coast landing places are few but very narrow gaps run down to little inlets at Porturlin and Portacloy and a rather wider opening occurs at Belderg. The whole region south of this coast consists of wide, peat covered mountain and vast bogland plains. About five miles west of the opening to Killala Bay the little bay of Bunatrahir marks a distinct break in the cliff-bound coast which continues to the east around Downpatrick Head. The valleys of the rivers flowing into Bunatrahir give access to fertile lowlands towards the Moy and Lough Conn. The outer reaches of Killala Bay are cliff-bound but Lackan Bay near the north-west and the indented shore line around the Moy estuary and on to Inishcrone in Co. Sligo are sandy and easy of approach.

The western half of County Mayo consists largely of bleak mountain and wide boglands, divided in two by a broad drumlin corridor extending eastwards from Clew Bay. South of the bay most of the region between Lough Mask and the sea is high mountain land. North of the bay great ranges of mountain form an almost continuous barrier from Achill to Lough Conn, though on either side of the great isolated block of Nephin (2,646 ft.) corridors lead through the wide Glen Nephin-Glenhest valley to the drumlin lands at the eastern end of Clew Bay. The long line of mountains forming a great arc from Maumakeogh to Slieve Fyagh joins the Nephin Beg range and divides the great flat boglands of north-west Mayo into two. The valley of the Owenmore river, along which the road from Crossmolina to Bangor Erris runs, provides the only gap through this mountain arc. The region enclosed to the east of the mountain spine is a wide lowland bog studded with many lakes and, save for occasional patches along esker ridges, is ill-drained.

East of a line from Bunatrahir Bay to Nephin Mountain the bogs give way to more fertile land. North of the valley of the Palmerstown River, which flows north-eastwards into Rathfran Bay, the higher ground is covered in peat but the river valleys and the coastal strip are fertile and well-drained. Further south an approximately triangular area roughly defined by lines joining the towns of Crossmolina, Killala and Ballina is a drumlin district. South of Ballina the Moy valley forms a fertile belt which curves around the end of the Ox Mountains at Foxford. The land around the northern part of Lough Conn is rolling grassland, but towards the south, hills on either side of the lake in the Pontoon district are rugged and barren.

South of Lough Conn the great drumlin belt of central Mayo begins and stretches westwards to Clew Bay and south to Lough Mask. This belt reaches almost to the mountain country between Lough Mask and the sea. The eastern edge of the drumlin zone can be roughly defined by a line from Swinford to Claremorris and on to the county boundary near Ballindine. The extreme south tip of Co. Mayo as far as lines joining Clonbur, Ballinrobe and Deerpark on the county boundary, is level limestone country largely free of drift with bare crag in many places. East of the great drumlin region the ground rises in rolling drift covered land, mostly 300 to 400 feet above sea-level, towards higher ground along the Roscommon border. Areas of bog are frequent, especially in the east where numerous lakes also occur.

COURT CAIRNS

The distribution of court cairns in Co. Mayo shows the great majority of sites concentrated in the north-east of the county where forty-two of the sixty-one tombs recognized as of this class lie. The unclassified tombs almost certainly include court cairns but such tombs occur within districts where court cairns are already represented and their inclusion would merely intensify the pattern apparent from the proven sites. The effect of inclusion of those unclassified tombs likely to have been court cairns would be mainly to add to the high density near Bunatrahir and strengthen the small group near Broadhaven.

The densest grouping of court cairns occurs in the hinterland of Bunatrahir and Killala Bays, within an area defined by lines from Belderg to Rakestreet and Rakestreet to Killala. In the north-east of Mayo court cairns cluster densely on the sides of the river valleys running into Bunatrahir, Lackan and Rathfran Bays. Most of the sites lie on arable and grassland but west of Ballycastle the upper reaches of the river valleys are blanketed in bog in which several sites are deeply embedded. Further west the sites at Behy and Belderg, on steep hillslopes looking down to the sea, are also deeply embedded. Five court cairns are known from the wide flat boglands, Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 39 and 43), Shanvodinnaun (Ma. 46), Eskeragh (Ma. 47) and Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52). These seem in large measure related to long esker ridges which would have provided better drained soils than otherwise available in the wide waterlogged moorlands. A similar factor would explain the presence of the wedge-shaped gallery grave at Carrowgarve South (Ma. 53) and the court cairn at Ballyduffy (Ma. 69) in the esker covered limestone region south-west of Crossmolina. At Eskeragh (Ma. 47) and Carrowkilleen (Ma. 52) the tombs are well clear of bog but this may to some extent be due to reclamation. Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 39), however, though beside a gravel esker, is completely engulfed in the bog and peat surrounds the other two cairns, Tawnywaddyduff (Ma. 43) and Shanvodinnaun (Ma. 46). As at Behy (Ma. 3) and Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) these and other deeply embedded tombs, apparently built on the surface below the peat, strongly suggest that much of the peat cover in this region of north-east Mayo is post-neolithic.

The distribution in this district as a whole seems clearly related to moderately elevated land on the valley sides. Tombs do not occur on the valley floors themselves and, save for Carrownaglogh (Ma. 100) at 700 feet, are not recorded on the higher slopes above 500 feet. Soil conditions are probably important factors in governing the distribution and a preference for moderately thin well-drained land is indicated. The district would support trees and some, at least, of the bogland was once forested as tree stumps occur in the peat. The history of the forest and of the peat growth in this region has not been sufficiently investigated but would be of paramount importance for any full discussion of the distribution of the tombs.

South of the concentrations above described the drumlin area roughly defined by lines joining Killala, Crossmolina and Ballina is devoid of tombs. When the sites in the Killala region are plotted on a geological map the vast majority of the court cairns and, indeed, of all megalithic tombs, are found to fall on the carboniferous sandstone with very few on the limestone and even these few lie close to the junction of the two formations. However, it appears that the occurrence of the drumlin land on the low-lying limestone area is likely to be the true distinction rather than the nature of the underlying rock as such. The edge of the sandstones in general lies roughly along the 200 ft. contour and the drumlins have formed on the limestone floor considerably lower than this. While ground levels affected the formation of drumlins it is the presence of soil conditions governed by the drumlins that seems to have discouraged the tomb builders rather than a question of elevation as such.

Immediately outside this region the tombs occur following the Moy valley in considerable density and turn the flank of the Ox Mountains at Foxford. This group continues south of the mountains in Sligo. East of Ballina court cairns at Ballyholan (Ma. 48), Carrowleagh (Ma. 51) and Carrownaglogh (Ma. 100) link with the group of tombs in Sligo north of the Ox Mountains. The second of these is deeply embedded in

bog and corresponds to the court cairn at Caltragh,¹ Co. Sligo, on the bog-covered plateau which skirts the northern flank of the mountains. Most of the tombs in the Moy valley group are on arable grassland. However, in general they lie on rather thin well-drained soil with rock outcrops near several examples, e.g., Creggaun (Ma. 55) and Cartronmacmanus (Ma. 74). The district can support heavy timber.

The great central drumlin belt extending into the sea at Clew Bay is virtually devoid of court cairns and indeed of megalithic tombs of any type. A single example on a partially submerged drumlin ridge at Rosbeg (Ma. 84) is coastal and therefore scarcely a real exception. The tomb at Cloondaff (Ma. 101) east of Beltra Lough lies about eight miles north-east of the last. This suggests a connection along the Glenhest-Glen Nephin valley to Ballyduffy (Ma. 69) which lies near the northern end of Glen Nephin. Two other court cairns, Shinganagh (Ma. 87) and Ballynastangford Lower (Ma. 97), lie just beyond the eastern edge of the drumlin belt where the drumlins give way to the rolling ridge country of east Mayo. The wedge-shaped gallery grave at Harefield (Ma. 98) lies near by. On the higher ground in eastern Mayo one court cairn only is known—the dual-court cairn at Cappagh (Ma. 86). It lies on a steep-sided stony ridge. This tomb is answered by dual-court cairns in Sligo, e.g. the destroyed site at Rathscanlon.² It, together with a very similar site of Flaskagh More³ twelve miles to the south in County Galway, lies at the west of the main central belt of dual-court cairns in south Ulster.

Along the west coast of Mayo thirteen court cairns are known, all within reach of accessible landing places. In the south, Formoyle (Ma. 90) and Aillemore (Ma. 89) are on stony hillslopes over little river valleys leading easily to a sandy sea-shore. In Achill the tombs face the strand at Keel, and lie on thin soil on the lower slopes of Slievemore. Dromgollagh (Ma. 77) and Tristia (Ma. 45) are approached by sea inlets and the group of five tombs around Broadhaven are easily approached by long sea arms. The other coastal site at Rosbeg (Ma. 84) in Clew Bay is within a short distance of the island-studded sea.

Two court cairns lie on limestone crag country in the Cong district just north of Lough Corrib. These, with a third site near by, just beyond the county boundary in Galway,⁴ form a little group separated by the drumlin belt on the one hand and the wild Connemara mountains on the other from the rest of the Mayo court cairns. It is not possible to suggest at present the most probable route by which the court cairn builders penetrated to this area.

The distribution of court cairns in Co. Mayo can then be defined as being in two main parts, one along the west coast, the other in the north-east. The majority lie in the north-east, largely on the sides of river valleys pointing towards Killala and Bunatrahair Bays. The relatively thin scatter of thirteen sites along the west coast indicates a coastal spread, probably by sea. This spread along the west coast does not seem to have achieved any real penetration inland and it is likely that the great flats now covered in bog, and the high mountains, were deterrents to settlement. The drumlin belt of lowlands reaching the sea on a broad front at Clew Bay seems also to have discouraged penetration. Taking the factors of hinterland, and also the inaccessible nature of the western portion of the northern coast into account, it would appear that the first real opportunity for expansion and settlement would be found near Bunatrahair and Killala Bays and here the great density of the distribution and the continuity inland along the Moy valley point to a massive incursion. When the small drumlin area in the Ballina-Killala-Crossmolina triangle is taken into account, the continuity of the dense concentration beginning in the hinterland of the bays is even more remarkable.

PORTAL DOLMENS

The six tombs of this class are all in coastal positions sited close to court cairns and there is no evidence for inland penetration of the type. The numbers are insufficient to permit detailed discussion.

1. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 89.

2. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 93.

3. O.S. Galway 6" Sheet 5, 79.6 cm. from left, 47.2 cm. from bottom.

4. Toberbiroge, O.S. Galway 6" Sheet 27, 53.7 cm. from left, 31.5 cm. from bottom.

WEDGE-SHAPED GALLERY GRAVES

The nineteen examples of wedge-shaped gallery graves occur in two groups. The first group consists of four sites on the west coast and the second comprises fifteen tombs in eastern Mayo. The group on the west coast forms a small knot of three sites near Castlehill and with these the nearby unclassified site at Drumsleed (Ma. 65) should probably be included. The other wedge-shaped gallery grave, Shrawee (Ma. 91), lies beyond Clew Bay to the south. All these sites are easily referable to a minor seaborne movement. On the northern coast of Mayo wedge-shaped gallery graves are not represented west of Rathfran Bay, near Killala, where three sites are known. Further inland from Killala Bay, save for one example at Carrowgarve South (Ma. 53) on the Deel River west of Crossmolina, the tombs all lie close to the base of the Ox Mountains. They do not run in a broad band along the Moy valley, as the court cairns do, but lie rather higher on the hill slopes. They connect clearly with the Sligo wedge-shaped gallery graves on both sides of the Ox Mountains. In south-east Mayo a group of five wedge-shaped gallery graves, together with a probable sixth example at Mountain-common (Ma. 85), lie on rolling grassland in the Claremorris-Ballyhaunis area.

Taken as a whole the type of land occupied by wedge-shaped gallery graves in Mayo shows no marked distinction from that on which the court cairns occur.

3. THE PLACE OF THE MAYO TOMBS IN THE IRISH SERIES

COURT CAIRNS

The number of court cairns in Co. Mayo is the largest known for any county in Ireland. The density of the distribution in the north-east of the county around Killala is scarcely equalled in any other region, even in the adjoining county of Sligo. The general map showing the 282 court cairns now known in Ireland makes it more than ever clear that the series is by far the most numerous homogeneous group of megalithic chambered long barrows in Britain or Ireland. The distribution, both in extent and in the occurrence of areas of high density, bears comparison with the great series of long barrows in southern Britain including both the megalithic (Severn-Cotswold) and non-megalithic groups. Since it is virtually certain that further sites will be discovered, it is well, before drawing conclusions, to attempt to assess how far the picture as now known is likely fairly to represent the true pattern of distribution.

Since the year 1957 when the maps for the paper on the court cairns of Ireland were made¹ sixty-four sites have been added. Their distribution is as follows: Mayo 36, Sligo 8, Galway 6, Donegal 3, Cavan 3, Tyrone 2, Derry 2, Fermanagh 1, Antrim 1, Tipperary 1, Kilkenny 1. It is necessary to point out that search in the west, particularly in Mayo, was more intensive than elsewhere in recent years, but against this must be set the fact that, initially, in the decade preceding the war, the eastern side of the distribution, especially within the Six County area, had been very extensively explored, while western districts remained practically unknown. Since the war considerable search and survey has been continued in the east.² It now appears virtually certain that the extent of the distribution has been quite adequately defined. Occasional tombs may be discovered outside the main region but it has long been evident that these will be few. Within the main region new discoveries are likely and extra examples in Co. Mayo itself are not improbable. In the region west of the Erne and in Donegal such discoveries would merely intensify an already densely covered region.

1. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 9-136.

2. Besides the complete survey of the Archaeological Survey of Northern Ireland covering Co. Down and now continuing in Co. Armagh, special surveys of court cairns over the whole eastern region were carried out by the present writers during the preparation of the court cairn article (*P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 9-136) and subsequently by Corcoran (*P.P.S.*, XXVI (1960), 96-148).

In the eastern counties, Antrim, Down, Louth and Armagh, some new sites may be recognized but the recently completed fieldwork for the Archæological Survey of Co. Down now extended into Co. Armagh indicates that no great numbers can be expected here. Antrim and Louth have in the past been well searched and again it would appear unlikely that any considerable number of sites remains to be found. In central Ulster—Derry, Tyrone, Cavan and Monaghan—the probability of the recognition of new sites is considerably higher than in the east. Added sites here would be likely to emphasize the connection with the western region of high density rather than with the more sparsely covered eastern area. It is not likely that discoveries will be sufficient to bring the density of the distribution in the central area at all as high as that already present west of the Erne. It would appear then that the distribution as now known can be relied on to show the main lines of the pattern which a full knowledge of the whole region would produce. In particular it is clear that the marked weight towards the west is real.

The map shows that well over seventy per cent of the court cairns lie west of a line from the mouth of the Foyle to Athlone. Over fifty-five per cent of the total lie south and west of the Erne and, if the line of the Erne is extended across the south-west peninsula of Donegal, sixty per cent of Irish court cairns are found to lie south and west of it. There is no reason to expect that further discoveries will seriously alter these figures. The region of greatest density that emerges from the distribution can be roughly defined as follows: A straight line from Gweebarra Bay in Donegal to Derrylin, Co. Fermanagh, running west of the Erne and parallel to the line of the lakes, would indicate the north-eastern boundary. The southern limit can be drawn by straight lines joining Derrylin to Drumshanbo at the southern extremity of Lough Allen, and thence south of Lough Cullin below Lough Conn. Lines from the south of Lough Cullin to Nephin mountain and from Nephin to Belderg Harbour on the north Mayo coast, would serve as the western boundary of the region. Within this area of approximately 2,200 square miles extent 139 tombs, or almost half the present total of Irish court cairns, are concentrated. In the whole extent of country eastwards across the rest of Ulster and north Leinster, an area of over 7,000 square miles, 106 tombs are recorded. The area of greatest density in south-west Ulster and north-east Connaught above defined overshadows the rest of the court cairn distribution in the frequency of concentrations of far higher density than any elsewhere. The coastal foci are especially remarkable. That in the Killala district is outstanding, while along the Sligo coast to the Malinmore Peninsula in south-west Donegal, save at the base of Donegal Bay where a drumlin belt intervenes, a very continuous distribution along the coastal strip is present with notable concentration near Ballysadare, Creevykeel and Killybegs.

The weight of the distribution towards the west, while favouring a beginning for the type there, is of itself inconclusive. However, the fact that along the north-west coasts from Galway to Donegal so many tombs are easily referable to a movement by sea conforms well with a seafaring tradition necessarily present in the newly-arrived culture. About 100 tombs lie in positions directly referable to landing points along the western and north-western coast. Indeed many are in positions from which access from inland is difficult and their presence in narrow coastal valleys is hard to account for as due to overland movement. When it is taken into account that such narrow valleys would scarcely seem to offer especially attractive opportunities for settlement it is difficult to explain the dense concentrations, which include some of the finest tombs of the whole Irish series, if the west coast were occupied only at a late stage by people who had already occupied the interior, whether the movement was overland or by sea.

The question of the general direction of the movement of the court cairns is important less for its own sake than for its bearing on the problem of the initial tomb form and hence ultimately on the problem of origins abroad. In the previous discussion¹ four main factors emerged which, combined with the distribution, could be taken as showing the general development. These were: the degree of court closure, the number of chambers

1. *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 9-140.

in the gallery, the preference for eastern orientation and the occurrence of transepted and related sites.

A general examination of the evidence for court closures shows that full-court cairns are the dominant form along the western fringe. Here proven open-courts are very rare. Elsewhere the presence of many open-courts and the absence of evidence for full-courts, save in Co. Derry, where contacts with the western sites are at least as likely as with the tombs in the centre, speaks clearly for a change in dominance. The great majority of open-courts show more than half-closure and this is most easily taken as a reminiscence of an originally full-court form. Proven examples of courts of less than half-closure are very rare, Audleystown,¹ Co. Down, being the most reliable example. In Scotland shallow courts side by side with tombs where the gallery opens from a flat frontal facade are the rule. A general reduction in court closure seems easily arguable.

The new evidence has served strongly to confirm the argument based on the smaller sample. The number of full-court cairns known has increased to forty from the twenty-six on which the previous discussion was based. The evidence for Mayo speaks for a dominance of the type there, perhaps to the exclusion of open-courts, and new examples in Sligo and Donegal have considerably augmented the picture. Among the full-court cairns the centre-court type remains relatively rare but three new specimens² are recorded. To be noted also is the occurrence of full-courts in dual-court cairns previously represented in one proven site only, Carbad More (Ma. 36). To this Carrow-killeen (Ma. 52) and Moneylahan,³ Co. Sligo can be added.

The great dominance of the two-chambered design is maintained. Of the sixty-four court cairns added no example has any indication of galleries of more than two chambers and most have certainly two chambers. On present accounting some seventy-five per cent of tombs where the number of chambers can be more or less satisfactorily determined, have two-chambered galleries and the dominance of the style already apparent is thus markedly increased. This overall dominance of the type throughout the distribution, combined with the fact that in both three- and four-chambered galleries reminiscences of the two-chambered type can be observed, strongly favours the two-chambered type as the original basic form.

The question of the orientation custom needs little revision. In Mayo, while the figures are doubled, the proportion remains virtually unaltered. On the whole the western areas of the court cairn distribution in Ireland show a closer adherence to the custom of eastwards alignment of the fronts of the cairns than is the case in the eastern districts and this appears to favour a general trend of movement from west to east. However, with small numbers a few exceptional tombs could alter the proportions greatly and moreover, factors such as the possible influence of dual-court cairns and centre-courts cannot be accurately assessed. Strict accounting within small areas is therefore unwise and it is only the whole that can properly be discussed.

Among the megalithic tombs of Great Britain and Ireland sites with side or end chambers opening off the main element and often arranged as transepts occur in three contexts—the Passage Graves, the Severn-Cotswold Tombs and the Irish Court Cairns. The proximate origin of the Irish Passage Graves, in which transepted and related forms are recurrent features, is very probably north-west France in the Morbihan-Vendée area. The transepted sites of the Severn-Cotswold group look to the same general region where transepted sites on both sides of the Loire yield excellent prototypes for the chamber form.⁴ While the origin of the Irish Court Cairns as a whole remains unsolved, transepted forms and the asymmetrically placed single side chambers can both be found in tombs in north-western France from the Morbihan to the district south of the Loire estuary. In the Irish Court Cairns the transepted and related sites occur in the foci taken to be early and the occurrence of transepts in full-court cairns seems also indicative of an early stage.

1. *U.J.A.*, XVII (1954), 7-39.

2. Muingerroon South (Ma. 38).

Cloghbooly, O.S. Sligo 6" Sheet 6, 79.8 cm. from left, 48.5 cm. from bottom.

Ballymunterhiggin, O.S. Donegal 6" Sheet 107, 39.2 cm. from left, 7.0 cm. from bottom.

3. O.S. Sligo 6" Sheet 6, 3.3 cm. from left, 39.8 cm. from bottom.

4. Daniel: *P.P.S.*, V (1939), 143-165.

Figgott: *The West Kennet Long Barrow* (London, H.M.S.O., 1962), 59 ff.

A very marked absence of subsidiary chambers separately entered from the cairn edge or court is found in the region where the transepted and related forms are known and it is quite possible that both arrangements are alternative means of providing accommodation. This is not the place for a full discussion of the problem of the transepted and related sites. It must suffice to note that if they are taken as an original introduced feature in all three series—Court Cairns, Passage Graves and Severn-Cotswold Tombs—those in the Court Cairns would favour the idea of a beginning in western districts. Their presence in the Irish Court Cairns is a further feature of inter-relationship among the Court Cairns and the Passage Graves and the Severn-Cotswold Tombs. This is most easily accounted for by the hypothesis of three great independent movements arising from a more or less common pool in north-western France. An alternative explanation of the side chambers and transepted examples of Irish Court Cairns as borrowing from the Passage Graves in Ireland, using the sites at Carrowkeel as a link, is less attractive distributionally. Morphologically too there are difficulties but discussion of these is not here appropriate. The general problem of Irish and British transepted sites is discussed in an article by one of us now in preparation.

No grave-goods are known from the Mayo court cairns¹ and save for Creevykeel,² no finds are available from Connaught or Donegal sites. However, though excavation of several western examples is clearly an urgent requirement, the consistency of the grave-goods known from the sites already excavated, in producing neolithic pottery, leaf and lozenge-shaped arrowheads, hollow scrapers, etc., make the assignment of the Mayo series to the same tradition quite reasonably secure.³

PORTAL DOLMENS

The six portal dolmens widely distributed along the coast of Co. Mayo indicate a comparatively weak intrusion of the type. The connection of these with the more numerous examples in Donegal and Sligo and with the sporadic occurrence further south in Galway, Clare and Cork, will best be undertaken in a later volume. Despite the paucity of the grave-goods in Irish portal dolmens a connection with the neolithic of the court cairns is indicated by them.⁴

WEDGE-SHAPED GALLERY GRAVES

The number of wedge-shaped gallery graves in Co. Mayo is hardly sufficient to warrant a detailed discussion of their place in the Irish series and as no grave-goods are known the dating and context depends on analogy.⁵ The Mayo sites clearly fall into two groups: Fifteen or more in the eastern side of the county and four, or possibly five, sites along the west coast. Of the eastern series the tombs around the south-west end of the Ox Mountains tie in with the numerous examples along both sides of the range in Sligo. The tombs in the south-east point to a connection through sites in Galway⁶ to concentrations in east Clare and Tipperary. The Tipperary and east Clare series, in their long galleries having several orthostats forming each side and roofs of several

1. But see additional note to Behy (Ma. 3) p. 5.
2. *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXIX (1939), 53-98.
3. For general discussion of pottery and other finds see:
Piggott: *Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles* (Cambridge, 1954), 167-177.
de Valera: *P.R.I.A.*, LX (1960), 48-59.
Corcoran: *P.P.S.*, XXVI (1960), 98-148.
de Valera: *P.P.S.*, XXVII (1961), 234-252.
Case: *P.P.S.*, XXVII (1961), 174-233.
4. *Survey of the Megalithic Tombs of Ireland, Vol. I, Co. Clare*, xiii.
P.R.I.A., LX (1960), 64-69. See also Herity: *J.R.S.A.I.* XCIV (1964), forthcoming.
5. For a general discussion, including grave-goods, see: *Survey of the Megalithic Tombs of Ireland, Vol. I, Co. Clare*, 112-115.
6. e.g., Marblehill O.S. 6" Sheet 125, 36.1 cm. from left, 36.0 cm. from bottom and O.S. 6" Sheet 125, 33.5 cm. from left, 32.1 cm. from bottom.
Cahernaglass O.S. 6" Sheet 58, 47.7 cm. from left, 9.2 cm. from bottom.

capstones together with a frequent occurrence of porticos, are clearly closely akin to those in Sligo and the main body of wedge-shaped tombs extending across Ulster. Those in east Galway and east Mayo have similar characteristics and morphologically form an excellent link between the two groups.

The tombs on the west coast of Mayo are widely separated from those in the east of the county. Geographically they seem most easily connected with the concentrations in north-west Clare and Aran. Their small size compares very readily with many examples among the north-west Clare series. The best preserved, Shrawee (Ma. 91), has obvious similarities with the north-west Clare tombs. The well-defined portico, however, is a feature scarcely attested in north-west Clare, though Cappaghkennedy (Cl. 42) may be an example and the protrusion of the sidestones beyond the closure of the west end of the main chambers, which is a normal feature in north-west Clare, may be related.¹ On the other hand the slab at the west end of the main chamber at Shrawee (Ma. 91), which runs across approximately threequarters of the width of the gallery, corresponds exactly to a form very typical of the north-west Clare tombs.²

The wedge-shaped galleries in Mayo therefore seem to represent, firstly, a junction, between the north Munster concentrations and the widespread series extending from Sligo across central Ulster to Antrim and secondly, a minor sea-coast extension from the great west Clare and Aran groups.

1. *Survey of the Megalithic Tombs of Ireland, Vol. I, Co. Clare*, 105.

2. *ibid.*, 104.

