

Seven corbels are recognised along the S side of the mound. The bases of all are concealed, but they appear to be up to 1m in sloping height and range from 0.75m to 1.4m wide. Just outside the gap between the third and fourth corbel are two slabs, one behind the other, which were clearly employed as corbels. These now lean away from the mound and rest on a displaced slab. To the E of these there are four other displaced slabs, and toward the W end of the mound is another. The largest of the displaced slabs at this side measures 2m in maximum dimension.

The line of exposed kerbstones at the southern side of the monument extends, including two short gaps, over a distance of 9.2m. These stones rise no more than 0.25m above the ground level outside them. The ground level inside the kerbstones is 0.2m higher than that outside. The largest of these kerbstones, the second from the W of the six contiguous ones, is a conspicuous quartz block. Approximately 2.5m W of the kerbstones and outside and at right angles to the line described by them there are two large stones laid on edge, but they do not seem to be set in the ground. The larger one measures 1m in maximum dimension. Neither seems to be an original feature.

The kerbstones at the W form a gently curving line *c.* 6m long. They are roughly the same height as their counterparts at the S. Approximately 0.9m E of the southern end of this line of kerbstones is a displaced slab, 0.75m in maximum dimension. Approximately 4.5m beyond the N side of the gallery are four small stones protruding just above ground level at intervals over a distance of 7.5m. The largest, the westernmost, measures 0.45m in maximum dimension. These may be kerbstones but cannot reliably be accepted as such and are not hatched on the plan. The kerbing at this site, though quite incomplete, indicates an original cairn length of at least 20m. It is clear that the cairn narrowed from a broad E end to a rounded W end.

Fagan 1845–8, book 13, 14; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 26, no. 36; SMR 1987, 78:21; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 78:21.

88. Magheracar. OS 106:15:4 (53.7 2.2). Not marked (1953–4). OD 0–100. G 796 587. Plates 111 and 112. Fig. 56.

Wedge tomb

This monument lies 2km W of Bundoran, just 50m from the coast and *c.* 80m E of the passage tomb in the same townland. It stands on level pasture and commands an extensive outlook in all directions. The mountain ranges of counties Sligo and Leitrim stretching northward from Ben Bulbin to Lough Melvin dominate the skyline to the SE.

The monument consists of the remains of a parallel-sided gallery, orientated WSW–ENE, with outer-walling to the N and S, all standing in a large mound. The gallery is 1m wide and at least 4m long. A single facade-stone survives at its W end. This stone is set at right angles to the S side of the gallery. Incomplete lengths of outer-walling converge sharply on the E end of the gallery. The mound is grass grown and approximately round, measuring 15m N–S by 14m E–W. It reaches a maximum height of *c.* 1m. There is some disturbance to the western edge of the mound, where an unfenced farm trackway runs alongside it.

The facade-stone is 0.5m high. Lockwood's (1901) accurate plan shows a small stone, not now visible, at the N end of the facade-stone. This small stone also seems to be represented on a sketch of the monument made in 1880 by Wakeman (1878–82), which appears to be the source of the illustration published by Wood-Martin (1887–8; 1888).

Three stones are visible on the S side of the gallery. The westernmost is slightly outside the line of the other two and is 0.25m high. The second stone, 0.5m to the E of the first, is 0.1m high. The third stone, a further 1.1m to the E, is also 0.1m high.

Three stones can be identified on the N side of the gallery, and the easternmost of these is overlapped by a fourth, which may represent a doubling of the gallery wall. The westernmost stone is 0.15m high. The second, 0.6m beyond the first, leans inward. It is 0.1m high. The third sidestone also leans inward, and its inner end is concealed. It too is 0.1m high. The stone overlapping this links the gallery side with the outer wall. It is 0.25m high.

The gap between the outer-walling and gallery side at the S narrows from 1.5m at the W to 0.5m at the present eastern end of both. There are three outer-wall stones at this side, and their heights from W to E are 0.5m, 0.2m

Plate 111. Magheracar (Dg. 88). Copy of an original plan of the tomb made in 1700 (BLL Stowe MS 1024). By permission of the British Library, London.

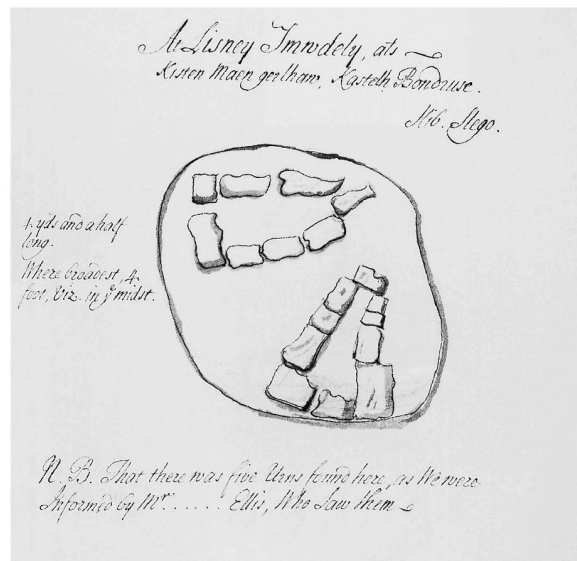


Plate 112. Magheracar (Dg. 88), from north.



and 0.1m. The westernmost of four outer-wall stones at the N is around midway along the structure. It is 0.5m high. The second and third stones here are also 0.5m high. The fourth, 0.5m beyond the third, is 0.2m high.

A manuscript drawing of the tomb (BLL Stowe MS 1024), a copy of an original made on Edward Lhuyd's tour in Ireland in 1700 (see Introduction), is reproduced above. The caption to the drawing states that Lhuyd's party was informed by Mr Ellis that five urns were found at the site. Nothing further is known of these.

BLL Stowe MS 1024, folio 176; Wakeman 1876–8a, 105 (this site appears to be one of those referred to as occurring on the coast at Bundoran); Wakeman 1878–82, 61 (drawing); Wood-Martin 1887–8, 156–8 (sketch, fig. 131); Wood-Martin 1888, 158–60 (sketch, fig. 131); Borlase 1897, 236–8, under Tirhugh nos. 4, 5, 6 ('Due E of the last...another megalith'); Lockwood 1901, 88 (plan, fig. 7); Holly 1973, 270 (plan); Ó Dubhthaigh 1973; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 43, no. 110 (plan); SMR 1987, 106:14; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; RMP 1995, 106:14.

89. Magheranaul. OS 4:13:2 (14.1 15.1). Not marked (1903). OD 100–200. C 434 499. Plates 113 and 114. Fig. 57.

Wedge tomb

The monument stands on level ground toward the eastern end of Doagh Isle peninsula and c. 500m N of the western end of Trawbreaga Bay. To the N the ground rises gradually to Crockmore (282 feet OD), the highest point of the peninsula. The view to the S is limited by a range of hills, 3.5km distant. The tomb stands on pasture

broken by occasional rock outcrops.

The monument, aligned almost WNW–ESE, consists of a short wedge-shaped gallery, around the sides and back of which is outer-walling. The gallery is 2.8m long and narrows from 1.3m wide at the W to 0.95m at the E. There is also a slight decrease in gallery height toward the E. Single stones form the sides and back of the gallery, entry to which was blocked by a large slab, now leaning outward, at the W. An hour-glass perforation has been bored in the middle of this stone. A single roofstone covers the gallery. The outer-walling is linked to the southern end of the closing stone by a facade-stone. The space between the outer-walling and the gallery side at the N is around half that at the S. The structure stands in a more or less heel-shaped mound that is 6.7m long and narrows from 6.5m wide at the W to 4.5m near its E end. It is unclear whether a deposit of grass-grown earth on the roofstone is a remnant of the mound.

The stone forming the N side of the gallery is 0.8m high, and that at the S is 0.7m high. The backstone, set between the ends of the sidestones, is 0.65m high. The outer faces of all three are hidden by the mound. The western closing stone would stand 0.85m high if upright. The sole facade-stone is 0.4m high. At the inner face of this is a low, largely hidden stone, 0.55m long and 0.1m thick. It may serve as a support to the facade-stone.

Three outer-wall stones survive at the S. The westernmost is 0.5m high. The second has fallen outward and is almost prostrate. It is partly concealed but when in place would have measured at least 1.6m long and 0.4m high. It is 0.2m thick. The third outer-wall stone on this side, 1m beyond the second, is 0.75m high. A loose stone, 1.2m by 0.4m, lies on the mound immediately N of this. Approximately 0.4m beyond the backstone of the gallery is a single outer-wall stone, now partly concealed by the mound. It is 0.2m in exposed height. Outer-walling at the N is represented by a single orthostat beyond the front half of the gallery. It is 0.5m in exposed height. A



Plate 113. Magheranaul (Dg. 89), from north showing leaning western closing stone and chamber behind it.



Plate 114. Magheranaul (Dg. 89). Inner face of western closing stone showing bored perforation.

small set stone beside the W end of this is 0.3m long, 0.15m thick and 0.25m high and seems also to form part of the outer wall.

The roofstone, from which a small piece has been detached at the SE, rests on the sidestones and backstone of the gallery. It is 2.8m long, 1.7m wide and up to 0.3m thick. Much of its southern edge is covered by the mound. The detached piece, which remains close to its original position, measures 0.7m by 0.6m.

The hole in the middle of the western closing stone was formed by boring inward from overlapping positions on both faces to achieve a perforation *c.* 0.08m across in the thickness of the stone. At the outer face of the stone the opening measures 0.12m by 0.13m, and at the inner face it measures 0.15m by 0.2m. This seems to be an ancient feature, but whether it was formed by the builders of the tomb or at a later period is not known. Its position at the centre of the slab and on the main axis of the monument may indicate that it formed an integral part of the overall design. Alternatively, it may be related to the numerous local instances of rock art (Lacy 1983, 99, nos. 656, 657, 658; Van Hoek and Van Hoek 1984; Van Hoek 1987).

Colhoun 1949, 112 (fig. 2b), 114, 116; Killanin and Duignan 1962, 87; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 98; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 43, no. 111; SMR 1987, 4:41; Killanin and Duignan 1989, 63; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; Colhoun 1995, 13–14 (plan); RMP 1995, 4:41.

90. Malin More. OS 89:3:2 (57.8 54.8). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1904–5). OD 200–300. G 507 833. Plates 115 and 116. Fig. 58.

Portal tomb

This monument is one of seven megalithic tombs (Dg. 90–96) in this townland located on either the N side or the floor of a shallow valley opening onto the N end of Malin Bay. This is the westernmost of three portal tombs (see also Dg. 93 and Dg. 94) on the N side of the valley and stands on grass-grown boggy ground 450m N of a stream that flows westward along the valley. There is a good outlook from the site.

The monument consists of two elements *c.* 5m apart. The eastern element is represented by four large slabs bearing on each other. The western one consists of two opposed slabs leaning against each other.

The largest of the four stones of the eastern structure is to the N. The indications are that it may have originally roofed the collapsed chamber. It leans southward and rests against the northern edge of the westernmost of the other three stones. This stone, which it is suggested may have formed the back of the chamber, in turn leans markedly eastward but otherwise appears to be in its original position. It rests against a prostrate slab that in turn overlies one end of another. Both of these may be fallen portal-stones that stood upright opposite each other at the front of the chamber. The northern one now overlies the southern one. The northern end of each of these is thought likely to have been set in the ground.

The displaced roofstone measures 3.8m by at least 1.85m and is 0.5m thick. The leaning backstone, which is aligned N–S, is 2.2m long at its base and 0.7m thick and would stand 2.1m high if upright. The top of this stone slopes down somewhat from S to N. The upper one of the two slabs to the E of this measures 2.9m from base to top and when in position would have been 1.1m long by 0.5m thick. The lower slab, when in position, would have measured 0.7m by 0.6m at its presumed base, broadened slightly to mid-height and from there narrowed to 0.35m by 0.3m at the top. This stone measures 3m from base to top. It seems clear that the four slabs are the remains of an E-facing portal tomb chamber.

The two leaning slabs of the western element lie E and W of each other. They are 1.3m apart at ground level, but their tops meet. The western one, which leans only slightly, is 1.8m long and 0.5m thick and would stand 1.2m high if upright. It is somewhat gabled in outline and seems to be a set stone. It may have been the backstone of a chamber. The eastern stone leans at an angle of *c.* 45 degrees. It measures 2.2m by 1.5m and is up to 0.8m thick. It is clearly displaced. Its original role is unclear, but it may have been a roofstone.

The original nature of this element is unclear, but it too may have been a portal tomb chamber. If so, the indications are that it faced eastward.

Occasional stones at the surface in the vicinity of and between the two structures may represent the remains of a cairn. Thomas Fagan (1845–8), who visited the site in 1847, noted that both elements, then in their present ruined state, stood in a ‘paved causeway’, and Norman Moore (1872) noted a short ridge, from which several



Plate 115. Malin More (Dg. 90). Western structure from south.



Plate 116. Malin More (Dg. 90). Eastern structure from south.

stones protruded, between the two.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 7–8; N. Moore 1872, 524 (at C); Anon. 1890–91a, 261 ('passing another cromlech in the fields to our right' seems to refer); Borlase 1897, 249, under Banagh nos. 9–20 (paragraph beginning 'At some little distance further down the glen...'); Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 298, no. 15; Herity 1971, 28, no. 33; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 54, no. 199; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 95, Donegal no. 19; SMR 1987, 89:4; Killanin and Duignan 1989, 193; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; Herity 1990, 49, no. 37; RMP 1995, 89:4.

91. Malin More. OS 89:3:4 (51.7 48.3). 'Dermot and Grania's Bed' (1904–5). OD 100–200. G 500 826. Plates 117–26. Figs. 59 and 60.

Portal tomb

This, the westernmost of the seven megalithic tombs in this townland, is 900m SW of the last (Dg. 90). It stands in pasture reclaimed from the bog on the floor of the valley opening onto the N end of Malin Bay, which is 500m to the W. There is a good outlook from the site to the W and N out to sea and to the E along the valley floor, but steeply rising ground nearby, the lowermost slopes below Leahan Mountain, restrict the view to the S and SE.

The monument consists of a row of six megalithic chambers standing at irregular intervals over a distance of 100m. They are in two separate fields, three in each, just S of a narrow road and are here numbered 1 to 6 from W to E. The four intermediate chambers are in a line, running more or less E–W, c. 5m N of and parallel to a line linking the larger terminal chambers. Chamber Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 6 are portal tomb chambers; No. 5, though

Plate 117. Malin More (Dg. 91), from south.



very ruined, seems also to have been one, but the original design of No. 4 is uncertain. The orientations of the four portal tomb chambers are as follows: No. 1 faces ENE; No. 2 faces SSE; No. 3 faces N; and No. 6 faces E. The orientation of No. 4 is uncertain, but in its present state it seems to have faced E. If, as suggested, the remains at No. 5 are those of a portal tomb chamber, it would have faced either E or W when intact. The distances between the chambers from W to E are 12m, 16m, 9m, 14m and 30m. The comparatively large gap between Nos. 5 and 6 suggests there may have been a further chamber between them. If there was such a chamber it may have fallen victim to the construction of the road adjacent to the complex.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8), who visited the site in 1847, refers to the existence of seven chambers (see below under No. 1) but provides details of only those numbered 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 here. He claimed that the chambers had stood in one long cairn that he estimated originally measured 100 yards (*c.* 91m) E–W and 20 yards (*c.* 18m) N–S. However, it was ‘defaced’ and ‘partly under tillage and fences’ when he saw it. A small, low, stony mound, referred to below, survives alongside the easternmost chamber (No. 6) and appears to be the remnant of a cairn. Apart from this, there is a light scatter of partly buried stones over much of the eastern half of the site, but excavation would be required to determine whether these represent an ancient cairn.

The Board of Works carried out work at this site toward the end of the 19th century (see Introduction), but the annual reports of that body provide little information about its nature and extent (CPW 1886, 22; 1887, 24, 63; 1888, 24). Borlase’s (1897, 244–8) charge that major alterations were made to the two larger chambers (Nos. 1 and 6) is considered below.

The chambers

No. 1

The entrance to this chamber, at the ENE, is flanked by two longitudinally set portal-stones, in front of each of which is a set stone. The stone in front of the southern portal-stone is a tall pillar-like one, and the one in front of the northern portal-stone is very low and may be just the stump of a taller stone. The southern portal-stone, also tall, is intact. However, the northern one is broken, and only the stump remains in place. The detached part of this stone lies prostrate immediately to the N of the stump. A single sidestone forms the N side of the chamber. There are two sidestones on the S side: a small stone beside the portal-stone and a large one to the W of it. Outside the adjacent ends of the southern portal-stone and the small sidestone beside it is a low stone, 0.4m high. It is not clear whether this is a structural stone. The chamber is closed by an inward-leaning backstone set between the sidestones. A large pad-stone or corbel in a sloping position rests against the S end of the backstone, and another lies above its N end. A subsidiary roofstone covers that part of the chamber behind the portal-stones. The main roofstone of the chamber lies displaced in front of the portal-stones. Measured as it stands, it is *c.* 3.3m long and 3m high. What appears to have been the front end of the roofstone when in place above the chamber now rests directly on the ground. This, the heavier end of the stone, is *c.* 1.2m thick. It lessens to *c.* 0.8m at the opposite, now the skyward, end.

The chamber, measured from the backstone to the outer ends of the portal-stones, is 3.2m long. It is *c.* 2m wide immediately behind the portal-stones and narrows to 1.7m at the back. It should be noted that rising ground level to the S of the chamber obscures the lower levels of the structure on the main sectional drawing. The stone in front of the southern portal-stone leans southward slightly. It is set transversely to the long axis of the portal-stone and is 2.4m high. The low stone in front of the northern portal-stone is set slightly askew to it and is 0.5m long, 0.1m thick and 0.2m high. The two portal-stones are 1.15m apart at their outer ends. The southern one, which is slightly overlapped by the small sidestone behind it, is 2.4m high. The stump of the northern portal-stone, set inside the line of the sidestone behind it, is 0.5m high. A pecked line on the plan indicates a vertical split in this stone. The detached part of this stone is 2.6m long. Thus, when intact, this portal-stone would have been *c.* 3m high. The northern sidestone decreases in height from 2m at its outer end to *c.* 1m at its inner end. It leans against the edge of the backstone. This inward lean is accentuated by the slight concavity of its inner face. The outer one of the two sidestones on the S side of the chamber is 0.5m long, 0.1m thick and 0.4m high measured at its inner face. The inner sidestone at this side leans inward. It is clear that a piece, size unknown, has been broken from the top of this stone. It is 0.3m high at its outer end, rising to 0.5m at its inner end. The backstone is gabled in outline and 1.15m high. The corbel or pad-stone leaning against the southern edge of the last also leans against the adjacent sidestone. The base of the corbel is on the ground, and it rises just above the top of the backstone. The corbel measures 1.4m by 1.1m and is 0.3m thick. The corbel or pad-stone above the N end of the backstone rests in a more or less horizontal position on the southern corbel and on the northern sidestone. It measures 1.2m by 1m by 0.1m thick. The subsidiary roofstone is 2.85m long (E–W), narrows from 2.1m wide at the front to 1.4m near its opposite end, and is 0.3m thick. It rests on the northern sidestone and on



Plate 118. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber No. 1 from south.



Plate 119. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber No. 1 from west.

both corbels and slopes down from front to back. A small stone is wedged between the northern end of the backstone and the northern sidestone. This is shown on the cross-section accompanying the plan. Another small stone wedged between the top of the broken sidestone at the S and the southern end of the backstone is also shown on the sectional drawing. A third small stone, not on plan or section, is wedged between the roofstone and the northern edge of the northern corbel. This measures 0.2m by 0.15m by 0.1m thick.

Borlase (1897, 245) claimed that the Board of Works constructed the roofed part of the chamber behind the portal-stones. This claim may have had its origins in his reliance on a brief and imprecise earlier account of the monument (N. Moore 1872, 521–2), which seems to have led him to the erroneous belief that the roofstone now in place behind the portal-stones had originally rested on the tall stones at the front (E end) of the structure.

Fagan's account of the monument, the earliest available, describes it as 10 feet (*c.* 3.05m) long, 4–5½ feet (*c.* 1.2–1.7m) wide and 2–4 feet (*c.* 0.6–1.2m) high. It is clear from his account that the front of the monument was then as it is now. Of that part of the monument behind the portal-stones, he observed that the 'western part of the grave is covered by a flag 10 feet [*c.* 3.05m] long, 6–7 feet [*c.* 1.8–2.15m] broad and 1–1½ feet [*c.* 0.3–0.45m] thick', measurements that accord well with those of the subsidiary roofstone. It appears from this that structurally the monument is now much as it was before the Board of Works attended to the site. We can only surmise on the nature of the work that was undertaken by the Board. That it may have proved necessary to stabilise the roofed part of the structure is suggested by the presence of small wedge stones mentioned above. One of these is wedged against the broken top of the western sidestone, so it at least seems to be a late feature. According to Fagan (1845–8), a large slab lay prostrate on some small stones just beyond the W end of the chamber. Just N of this was another, which supported a smaller one. Fagan considered the two large slabs to be tombstones. He seems to have regarded them as one burial monument, hence, it appears, his claim that there were seven structures at this site. There is no trace of the slabs referred to by Fagan. He also noted that there was a slab on top of the prone upper part of the northern portal-stone. This too is now gone. Norman Moore (1872, 521) observed that earth and small stones hid part of the W end of the structure. This is no longer the case, and it may be that the Board of Works removed them and perhaps some of the large slabs noted by Fagan.

No. 2

The entrance to this small chamber is at the SSE between two portal-stones. The western portal-stone is broken, and only its stump remains. The sides of the chamber are formed by single stones set outside the lines of the portal-stones. It is closed by a stone set between the ends of the sidestones. A roofstone has slipped westward and now rests on a slab, possibly a piece detached from its underside, which itself rests on the western sidestone.

The portal-stones are 0.65m apart. The stump of the western one is 0.15m high. The intact eastern one is 1.2m high. This rises 0.5m above the outer end of the eastern sidestone, which leans against it. This sidestone is 0.7m high at its outer end, from where it declines to 0.15m at the inner end. The western sidestone slightly overlaps the stump of the adjacent portal-stone but does not touch it. It does, however, lean against the backstone. It is 0.3m high. The upright backstone, measured at its inner face, increases in height from 0.2m at its eastern edge



Plate 120. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber No. 2 from south.



Plate 121. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber No. 2 from east.

to 0.35m at the western. The appearance of this stone suggests that a piece may have been detached from its top. Ground level outside the backstone is 0.2m below that in the chamber. The displaced roofstone measures 1.8m by 1.4m by 0.3m thick. The slab between it and the top of the western sidestone measures 1.7m by at least 0.6m and is 0.15m in maximum thickness. A stone, 0.7m by 0.5m by 0.4m (not on plan), which does not appear to have formed part of the structure, lies between the portal-stones. In addition some small stones lie in the chamber.

This chamber, when intact, would have been just under 2m long. It narrows slightly from 1.05m just inside the portal-stones to 0.9m at the back.

No. 3

The eastern portal-stone marks the entrance of this N-facing chamber. The western portal-stone has fallen and lies prostrate beneath a displaced roofstone. Single stones form the sides, the eastern one set outside the line of the adjacent portal-stone. The backstone, slightly askew to the main axis of the chamber, is set between the ends of the sidestones. There is a layer of peat in the chamber. The original chamber length would have been less than 2.5m, and it narrows slightly from 1.25m just inside the portal-stones to 1.15m at the backstone.

The eastern portal-stone is 1.4m high. The prostrate western portal-stone measures 1.3m by at least 1.4m and is at least 0.25m thick. When upright it would have stood at least as high as the eastern one. The intact portal-stone rises 0.45m above the top of the eastern sidestone. The sidestone, which leans against the backstone, decreases in height from 0.65m at the front to c. 0.2m at the back. The western sidestone, which also leans against the backstone, is 0.6m high at its outer end. This, too, decreases in height toward its inner end but less markedly than the other sidestone. The backstone leans inward slightly and narrows toward the top. It is 0.25m in exposed



Plate 122. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber No. 3 from south.

height at its inner face and 0.5m at its outer face. The displaced roofstone lies in a sloping position, rising from W to E, across the front of the chamber. It now rests on the outer end of the western sidestone and against the top of the inner face of the eastern portal-stone. This substantial slab measures 2.5m by 1.4m and is 0.5–0.7m thick.

A rough sketch of the front of this chamber by Thomas Fagan (1845–8) shows both portal-stones in place and the roofstone resting on them. Norman Moore (1872, 522, D III) saw this chamber in 1871. His description, with sketch plan, is not clear about the state of the chamber, but it seems that the roofstone had fallen by that date. When Borlase (1897, 246–7) saw it in 1888 it was in its present state.

No. 4

The original design of this structure is uncertain. Five orthostats and a slightly displaced roofstone remain of what seems to have been a small low chamber *c.* 1.5m across, now open to the E. A sixth orthostat, just beyond the open end, is of uncertain function but may be part of an entrance feature or perhaps an indication that the original structure was more extensive than it now appears.

A single orthostat, 0.7m in maximum height, forms the W end, possibly the original back, of the structure. The N side, represented by two orthostats, and the S side, represented by a single orthostat, converge on the western stone. The western one of the two stones at the N is 0.35m high, and the eastern is 0.3m high. The single stone at the S is 0.6m high. A lone stone 0.5m high stands at the open E end of the structure. The roofstone, from the southern edge of which a piece may have been broken, covers the greater part of the space described by the five orthostats. One end rests on the western orthostat, and the other end has slipped from the top of the lone orthostat at the E and now rests on the ground. It measures 1.9m by 1.5m and is 0.2–0.3m thick. The sixth orthostat, 0.25m beyond the roofed element, is 0.85m high. There is a grass-grown mound of uncertain age, apparently of stone, to the S of the structure. This measures 2.5m by 2.5m and is 0.7m high. Old cultivation ridges adjoin the southern side of the mound.

A Board of Works report (CPW 1887, 63) claimed there were two chambers here, each 4 feet by 4 feet (*c.* 1.2m by *c.* 1.2m), then filled with rubbish. It was proposed ‘to examine carefully the debris around the structures, taking care not to disturb the stones’, but the results of this examination, if it took place, are not known. Like Norman Moore’s account (1872, 522), the Board of Works report noted what may have been cairn remains between this and the next chamber (No. 5). Accounts of the structure by Fagan (1845–8), Norman Moore (1872, 522) and Borlase (1897, 247) are all brief and imprecise, but there is nothing in any of them to support the claim in the Board of Works report that there were two chambers here. A purported sketch of the structure that accompanies the Board of Works report sheds no light on the matter.



Plate 123. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber No. 4 from west.

No. 5

This structure is very ruined, and its northern end is incorporated in the roadside wall. A large slab, apparently a displaced roofstone, one end of which is on the ground and overlain by the roadside wall, rests in a leaning

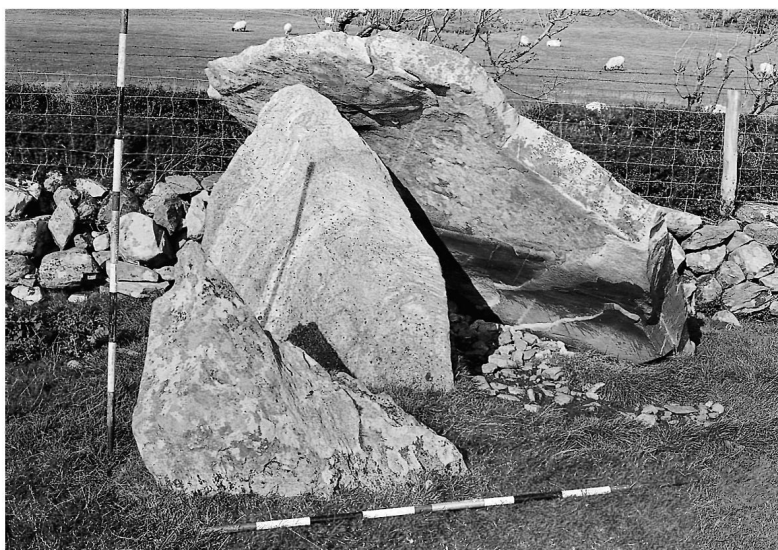


Plate 124. Malin More (Dg. 91).
Chamber No. 5 from south.

position against the N face of an orthostat that is orientated E–W. Just 0.7m S of this orthostat is another, parallel to it. Although this is now slightly loose in the ground, it seems to be a structural stone. Both orthostats lean slightly to the N.

The apparent roofstone measures 3.1m by at least 2.2m and is 0.2–0.3m thick. The stone supporting it is 1.5m high. The stone parallel to this is 1m high. This may be the remnant of a taller stone, as the appearance of its top suggests that it has been broken. A further 1.6m to the S is another upright slab (not hatched on plan), which is of uncertain status and measures 0.8m long, 0.25m thick and 0.55m high. This stands at the NE corner of a low grass-grown heap of stones, measuring 1.1m N–S by 3m E–W by 0.3m high.

The original form of this structure is unclear. However, if the southern one of the two hatched stones on plan was originally taller, as may have been the case, it and the northern one could have served as the portal-stones of a chamber the only other remnant of which is a displaced roofstone. In this scenario the chamber would have lain either E or W of the supposed portal-stones.

Fagan's account (1845–8) indicates that the structure is now as it was in 1847. In 1871 Norman Moore (1872, 522) noted 'numbers of loose stones' around it. The Board of Works report (CPW 1887, 63) claimed that in addition to the dislodged roofstone there were five upright stones here, but a purported sketch of the structure shows three upright stones with what appears to be a large slab leaning against one of them.

No. 6

This partially collapsed portal tomb chamber faces E. Its main roofstone has fallen eastward and now rests, one end on the ground, at the E end of the monument. It lies in a sloping position against the outer ends of the two portal-stones, both of which have collapsed northward. The portal-stones now rest in leaning positions, the southern one on the northern one. Three stones remain *in situ*: the single orthostats forming each side of the chamber and an inset gabled backstone. A large slab outside and leaning against the NW corner of the chamber appears to be the displaced subsidiary roofstone. This seems to have covered the W end of the chamber, i.e. that part of it behind the portal-stones. There is a displaced pillar-like stone to the W of the subsidiary roofstone.

When intact the chamber seems to have been *c.* 2–3m long and narrowed from *c.* 2.5m wide immediately behind the portal-stones to 1.4m at the back. A modern field wall adjoins the E end of the displaced main roofstone. Another field wall runs northward from the northern sidestone. A space between the underside of the main roofstone and the leaning northern portal-stone has been blocked by mortared stone, as has a space at ground level between the same portal-stone and the northern sidestone.

The main roofstone measures 3.1m by 2.5m and is 0.9m thick. The southern portal-stone, which is flat topped, would stand 2.5m high if upright. The northern portal-stone, somewhat pointed on top, would stand 2.6m high if upright. The southern sidestone leans inward quite markedly and rests against the edge of the backstone, above which it rises 0.5m. It would stand 1.5m high if upright. The northern sidestone leans inward slightly and also rests against the backstone. It is 1.35m high. The backstone, close to lozenge shaped in plan, is 0.8m high.

Plate 125. Malin More (Dg. 91).
Chamber No. 6 from south-south-east.



Plate 126. Malin More (Dg. 91). Chamber
No. 6 from west.



The displaced subsidiary roofstone measures 3.4m by 1.75m and is 0.4m thick. The prostrate pillar-like stone beside it measures 3m by 0.7m by 0.6m. Its original function is not clear. The small mound alongside this chamber has been referred to above. It adjoins the structure at the SW, occupies a long, relatively narrow space measuring 11.3m E–W by 5m N–S and is up to 0.5m high.

When Thomas Fagan saw this structure in 1847 the main roofstone had already fallen eastward, although he suggests that the portal-stones were then upright. Norman Moore (1872, 522) noted that the chamber formed one side of a byre. Borlase (1897, 247–8) claimed that under the Board of Works ‘the process of overhauling and renovating has been carried on here almost as vigorously’ as at the western chamber, but he provided no details. The remains can satisfactorily be interpreted as those of a collapsed portal tomb chamber, and, despite Borlase’s claim, there is no evidence that the Board of Works carried out any significant structural alterations here.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 12–20 (sketches); Fergusson 1872, 226; N. Moore 1872, 521–2 (nos. D I–D VI with rudimentary sketches of Nos. 1, 3 and 6 above); M. Stokes 1882, 19 (‘six dolmens’ at Glencolumbkille may refer); CPW 1886, 22; CPW 1887, 24, 63 (with sketches of Nos. 1–5); CPW 1888, 24; Anon. 1890–91a (with two sketches of No. 1, p. 260 and p. 262, and one sketch of No. 2, p. 261); Doherty 1891, 108–9; Borlase 1897, 244–8, Banagh nos. 3–8 (sketch of No. 1 on p. 246); RSAI photograph collection (c. 1900); H. Morris 1947, 41, no. B5; Crozier 1957, 70 (‘the famous dolmens at Malinmore’); de Valera 1960, 135, no. 34; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 294, 298, no. 16; Herity 1971, 27, no. 31; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 32–3, nos. 61–6 (photograph of No. 1); Ó Nualláin 1983b, 95, Donegal no. 20; SMR 1987, 89:8; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; Herity 1990, 49, no. 36 (photograph of No. 1); RMP 1995, 89:8.

92. Malin More. OS 89:3:5 (66.0 52.5). Not marked (1907). OD 200–300. G 516 831. Plate 127. Fig. 65.

Court tomb (?)

This monument, not shown on OS maps, stands amid outcropping rock on the N side of the valley opening onto the N side of Malin Bay. When describing the nearby portal tomb (Dg. 93), which lies 80m to the E, Norman Moore (1872, 524) mentioned that there was a ‘chamber cromlech of small dimensions’ 40 yards (*c.* 37m) W of it. There is no trace of such a feature at this position, but, if we allow for some imprecision on Moore’s part, he may have been referring to the monument described here.

The monument consists of what appears to be the front chamber of an otherwise destroyed gallery, at the ENE end of which is an arc of three stones, possibly the remains of the northern arm of a court. There is a line of two small stones between the chamber and the arc of stones. Though firmly set, their function is most uncertain. They may have formed part of a small antechamber.

There is a gap of 0.8m between the outermost one of the arc of stones and the middle one, and 0.6m between this and the innermost one. The outermost stone is 0.2m high; the middle one is 0.25m high; and the innermost one is 0.4m high. A stone beside the middle one measures 0.4m by 0.4m by 0.25m high. This is not firmly set and is not hatched on the plan.

Two jambs, the northern one longitudinally set and the southern one transversely set, are 0.6m apart and stand at the front of the chamber. A displaced slab, 0.8m by 0.7m by 0.3m thick, now spans the gap between them. It rests on top of the southern one and against the inner face of the northern one. The southern jamb, its outer end concealed, is 0.5m high. Its northern counterpart is 1m high. The two small set stones, indicators of a possible antechamber, run forward from this. That next to the jamb is 0.25m high, and the other is 0.1m high. Both are 0.3m long and 0.05m thick.

The chamber is 1.8m long and 1.45m wide internally. A single orthostat forms each side. That to the N, set outside the line of the adjacent jamb, is 0.55m high. The southern sidestone is 0.9m high and leans inward slightly. What appears to be a segmenting jamb is set against the inner face of this. Transversely set, this is 0.3m high. Opposite it is a stone at the inner face of the northern sidestone. This does not appear to be securely set and is not hatched on the plan. It measures 0.5m by 0.3m by 0.3m high.

Some small stones lie scattered around the site. Additionally, two large displaced stones lie in front of the chamber. One just in front of the chamber measures 1.4m by 1.1m by 0.7m. Local information suggests that this was detached from the outcropping rock to the S of the court area in recent decades. The second displaced stone, 1.3m E of the first, measures 1m by 0.65m by 0.5m.

The survival here of what appears to be part of a court, and of a chamber that seems to be the remnant of a gallery divided by jambs, suggests that the remains are those of a court tomb, and the monument is tentatively assigned to that class.

N. Moore 1872, 524 (‘Forty yards west is a chamber cromlech of small dimensions’ may refer); Borlase 1897, 249, under Banagh nos. 9–20 (quotes Moore).



Plate 127. Malin More (Dg. 92), from west-south-west.

93. Malin More. OS 89:3:6 (66.9 52.3). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1904–5). OD 200–300. G 516 830. Plate 128. Fig. 58.

Portal tomb

This monument is one of the three portal tombs on the N side of the valley opening onto the N end of Malin Bay. It is 1km ESE of the westernmost of the three (Dg. 90), just 100m NW of the other (Dg. 94) and close to a dwelling-house in pasture broken by rock outcrops. It marks the junction of three field walls that run to the E, S and W from it.

The monument is greatly ruined, and only one orthostat, a portal-stone, remains *in situ*. This now leans slightly to the E. It is more or less rectangular in plan at the base and for around two-thirds of its height, and above that it narrows to a point. It would stand at least 2.5m high if upright. A displaced roofstone leans against the W end of this. This large slab measures 4.2m by 2.7m and is up to 0.7m thick. It overlies three displaced stones: one protrudes from beneath its eastern edge; the second protrudes from beneath its western edge; and the third, completely overlain, lies between the other two. These stones are further obscured by loose stones heaped beneath the roofstone. The easternmost of the three leans against the S face of the portal-stone. It measures 1.4m by at least 1.5m and is 0.4m thick. It would stand *c.* 1.5m high if upright. Its role is now unclear, but it may have served as a doorstone to the chamber. The prostrate stone protruding from beneath the western edge of the roofstone may have fallen westward. It is gabled in outline and may be the backstone of the chamber. It measures 2.3m N–S, is *c.* 0.3m thick and would have stood at least 1.3m high. The third stone here, which is completely overlain by the roofstone, is difficult to examine. It measures at least 1m in maximum dimension and seems to be *c.* 0.4m thick.

The indications are that the extant portal-stone stood at the N side of the entrance to an ESE-facing chamber. If this was the case, the top of this stone sloped down toward the backstone.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1847. It appears from his account that it was then in its present state. He reported that a short time before his visit some large stones had been broken and dislodged, among them a ‘pillar’ 9 feet (*c.* 2.75m) high that had stood close to the surviving portal-stone. A ‘few yards’ to the SE of the tomb there were, according to Fagan, the ruins of an enclosure measuring 15 yards (*c.* 13.7m) by 13 yards (*c.* 11.9m), bounded by a thick stone wall, the base of which survived. This feature, which he considered might also be a ‘place of sepulture’, cannot be identified today.

Norman Moore (1872) claimed that there was another ‘cromlech’ of equal dimensions 10 yards (*c.* 9.15m) from the tomb described here, that a little to the S there were several stones on the ground, and that 40 yards (*c.* 36.5m) to the W there was a small ‘chamber cromlech’ and near it many mounds with stones projecting, possibly artificial. None of these additional features noted by Moore is apparent at the positions indicated, although the small ‘chamber cromlech’ may be the court tomb (Dg. 92) that stands 80m W of the tomb described here.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 9–10; N. Moore 1872, 524 (‘200 yards west in a straight line is a huge cromlech’);



Plate 128. Malin More (Dg. 93), from north-east.

Borlase 1897, 249, under Banagh nos. 9–20; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 35, no. 67; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 95, Donegal no. 21; SMR 1987, 89:5; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; Herity 1990, 49, no. 38; RMP 1995, 89:5.

94. Malin More. OS 89:3:6 (67.6 51.7). ‘Cloghacorra’ (applies also to nearby standing stone) (1904–5). OD 300–400. G 517 830. Plate 129. Fig. 66.

Portal tomb

This monument, 100m SE of the last (Dg. 93), stands in boggy ground on the northern slope of the valley opening onto Malin Bay. It commands a good outlook E and W along the valley, but rising ground restricts the view toward the N.

The structure is quite ruined and partly concealed by field stones heaped around it. An upright portal-stone and a sidestone represent the S side of an E-facing chamber, originally *c.* 3m long. To the S is a large prostrate slab. To the N is another large displaced slab, which leans against the top of the sidestone. This slab, which may have formed the N side of the structure, overlies and partly hides a smaller prostrate slab, possibly the backstone of the chamber. Approximately 2.5m N of the portal-stone is a low set stone. This is 0.75m long, 0.2m thick and 0.3m high. Its function is unclear.

The portal-stone, 2m high, narrows to the top. The sidestone is set outside this and leans against it. It is 1.1m high. The prostrate slab to the S, its southern edge grass grown, measures 2.7m by 1.8m and is 0.35m thick. This may have served as a roofstone. The displaced slab leaning against the N face of the sidestone is 2.7m in overall length, 0.3m thick at its northern end, which rests on the ground, and 0.1–0.15m thick at the southern end. If upright it would stand 1.6m high. The smaller slab beneath this is at least 0.9m in horizontal measurement and 0.3m thick.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) saw this monument in 1847, and his account indicates that it was then in its present state. He also stated that there were the ‘ruins of an enclosed grave’ at the base of the nearby standing stone but provided no details. This standing stone is 2.05m high (Lacy 1983, 84). There is a heap of field stones beside it now but no indication of any structure.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 11; N. Moore 1872, 524 (‘The first of this group...’); Ferguson 1879, 121 (sketch); Anon. 1890–91a, 261 (fine cromlech used as a shelter for cattle); Borlase 1897, 240, 244, Banagh no. 2, and 249, Banagh nos. 9–20 (p. 240: ‘In the same townland, on the opposite side of the road, are the remains of a dolmen, and near it a menhir’; p. 244: ‘A monument was pointed out to me...’; p. 249: ‘The first of this group is a chamber cromlech’); Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 298, no. 17; Herity 1971, 28, no. 34; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 35, no. 68; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 95, Donegal no. 22; SMR 1987, 89:6; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; Herity 1990, 50, no. 39; RMP 1995, 89:6.



Plate 129. Malin More (Dg. 94), from south-south-west.

95. Malin More. OS 89:3:6 (68.7 47.6). ‘Cloghanmore’ (1907). OD 200–300. G 519 826. Plates 130–40. Figs. 62–4.

Court tomb

The monument, first shown on the 1848–50 edition of the OS six-inch map, appears as ‘Ruins of a Druidical Temple’ on the pre-publication field map. It stands on generally level, grass-grown, boggy ground toward the head of the valley opening onto the N end of Malin Bay, 2.3km to the W. It is 50m S of the stream that flows westward along the valley and commands a good outlook toward the sea. The depth of bog in the immediate vicinity of the monument is at least 1m.

The monument, partly restored by the Board of Works toward the end of the 19th century, is in a fair state of preservation. Its orthostatic structure stands in a coffin-shaped cairn bounded by drystone walling. At the E, a short passage opens into a large, orthostatically defined full court of oval outline. Just inside the entrance passage a subsidiary chamber opens onto each arm of the court. The outer face of a court orthostat beside the entrance to each of these chambers bears picked motifs, apparently prehistoric in origin. Two galleries, parallel to each other and *c.* 1m apart, open off the western end of the court, and each is divided by jambs into two chambers.

The earliest available account of this monument is by Thomas Fagan, who saw it in 1847. Both he and Norman Moore (1872, 523), who visited here in 1871, found it difficult to interpret, perhaps because of its disordered state, and their reports are of limited value. Both included a rough sketch of the monument with their reports, but these cannot be reconciled either with each other or with the structure as now exposed. There are two useful illustrations of the monument before its restoration, both reproduced by Borlase (1897, 241). One is the plan published by Sir Samuel Ferguson (1879, 122). He visited the site in 1864, and the plan is thought to date to that year. The other, an undated and unattributed drawing showing a view of the monument from the front, was among a collection of drawings made available by Margaret Stokes to Borlase (1897, ix). Both illustrations are reproduced below. On Ferguson’s plan cross-hatched areas seem intended to represent chambers, but set stones are not distinguished from displaced ones, and there is no indication of orientation. Nevertheless, as on the Stokes collection drawing, the main features of the monument can be recognised. The involvement of the Board of Works at this tomb (see Introduction) is referred to in the annual reports of that institution (CPW 1886, 22; 1887, 24), but these contain practically no information about the nature of the work undertaken. One of the annual reports includes a description of the tomb (CPW 1887, 63), but this too contains little information, and the accompanying plan omits part of one of the galleries of the monument. This account does mention that ‘the cells are being cleared out’. Work at the site seems to have been completed in 1887 (CPW 1888, 24). However, a few years later unspecified work was carried out at a site identified only as ‘Cloughan More’ (CPW 1892, 24; 1893, 28). It is not known whether this is the same site as that described here. Borlase (1897, 240–44), who visited the site in 1888, the year after its restoration, incorrectly assigned a N–S orientation to the main axis of the monument. He was informed that ‘some few objects, such as pottery etc.’ had been found by the workmen during the restoration.



Plate 130. Malin More (Dg. 95), from east.

The precise nature and extent of the restoration work carried out by the Board of Works are not clear, but it appears from the available evidence, particularly the pre-restoration drawings, to have mainly involved removing cairn spill from the court, clearing the chambers, exposing the cairn outline and rebuilding the drystone kerb. This work would inevitably have entailed considerable archaeological loss.

The cairn

The restored cairn is 46.3m long and attains its maximum width, 16.7m, midway along the court, from where it narrows to 12m at the E and 7.5m at the W. Its eastern half is 1–1.5m high. Toward the W and beyond the galleries it gradually declines by *c.* 1m in height. Rough grass now grows on its W end, which was bog grown until revealed during the restoration by the Board of Works. According to Borlase (1897, 241), the base of the drystone kerb was exposed by digging a trench around the monument. On the exposed base of the kerb, to judge from the denuded state of the front of the cairn as portrayed on the pre-restoration drawing from the Stokes collection, the Board of Works built a substantial ‘wall’ of dry stonework around the court. This rises above the court orthostats and is generally 2–2.5m thick but reaches 5.7m and 4.2m at the outer ends of the N and S sides of the monument. It is clear that T.N. Deane, then Superintendent of the Board of Works, believed that this monument was a cashel with ‘cells’ and not a chambered cairn (CPW 1887, 63). This must raise a question about the reliability of the shape of the restored cairn, which has been unfavourably commented on (Wakeman 1890–91; Anon. 1890–91b). Only excavation could now determine this issue, but it is significant that its coffin-shaped outline has since found parallels at excavated monuments such as Behy (Ma. 3) and Shalwy (Dg. 113). It would be expected, though, that cairn height would dip toward the court entrance, which is not the case here, and it is probable that the cairn at the front is built to a height greater than it is likely to have been in its original state.

The facade and entrance passage

The facade of the restored cairn is of drystone construction except for two orthostats, one at either side of the entrance passage to the court. It is considered that these may be *in situ* or at least restored to their original positions. Both are relatively low. The northern one is 0.35m high, and the southern one is 0.4m high.

Opposed orthostats form each side of the entrance passage, which is 3m long and 1.9–2.2m wide. The orthostat on the northern side is 1m high, and that at the S is 0.6m high. A displaced slab, 2m by 1m by 0.3m thick, leans against the northern orthostat. On Ferguson’s (1879, 122) plan the space between the orthostats is cross-hatched, indicating that he may have considered this a chamber, an opinion shared by Borlase (1897, 243).

The court

The court is 16m long (E–W) and 12m wide. Court orthostats, their tops and outer faces hidden by the reconstructed cairn, survive along the full length of the S arm, except for short gaps, and there are two rather more substantial gaps in the N arm, one of 2.2m at around mid-length and one 4m long in its outer half. Nine stones survive along the N arm. They range from 0.9m to 1.75m long and from 0.2m to 1.5m high. There are seventeen stones along the S arm, 0.5–1.75m long and 0.2–1.1m high. The thicknesses of the courtstones cannot all be determined, but they seem to be 0.3m or more in most instances. In both arms the innermost stone is a tall one: that at the N is 1.5m high, and that at the S is 1.1m high at its inner end, sloping to 0.6m at its outer end. Beyond each there is a steady diminution in the heights of the courtstones to around midway along both arms, beyond which, with the exception of the stones fronting the subsidiary chambers, they vary from *c.* 0.2m to 0.5m high.

Apart from one or two taller ones at the inner end of the N arm, the courtstones do not appear to be represented on the two pre-restoration drawings of the monument. The annual reports of the Board of Works provide no information on the state of the court, but the occurrence of gaps between the orthostats indicates that, although fallen or leaning stones may have been re-erected as found, no attempt was made to replace missing ones. The cleared court is shown in a photograph from the Lawrence collection (*c.* 1880–1910).

In the inner half of the court are a number of displaced slabs. One of these, less than 1m from the front of the northern gallery, measures 1.6m by 1.15m and is 0.6m thick. To the S of this and just 0.3m from what may be a displaced lintel (see below) in front of the southern gallery there is another displaced slab, 1.1m by 0.75m and 0.35m thick. Approximately 2.3m E of the last is another, large one, 3m by 1.15m by 0.9m.

Plate 131. Malin More (Dg. 95). Photograph no. 1411 from Lawrence collection (c. 1880–1910) apparently taken not long after the late 19th-century restoration of the site by the Board of Works; courtesy of the National Library of Ireland.



The northern subsidiary chamber

The northern subsidiary chamber has partly collapsed and lacks a backstone. Single orthostats form each side. The eastern one has fallen inward and leans against the western one. Both support an inclined roofstone. The orthostat at the W is 0.95m in exposed height. The eastern one would have stood c. 1m high when upright. The roofstone measures 2m by 1.45m and is 0.25m thick. Two court orthostats, not more than 0.1m apart, stand at the front of the chamber. The eastern one, one of the two decorated stones mentioned above, is 0.7m high. It rises 0.15m above the top of the western orthostat. This chamber can be recognised on the pre-restoration drawings. It appears to have been in much the same condition then as it is now.

The southern subsidiary chamber

The southern subsidiary chamber is 2m long and 1.2–1.4m wide. A courtstone, split vertically into two pieces, stands at the entrance. This leans outward; it is 1.1m in overall length and 0.2m thick and would stand 1m high if upright. When in position this may have effectively blocked the entrance. The courtstone adjoining its inner end is the second of the decorated stones mentioned above. A displaced slab, 1.9m by 1.25m and 0.25m thick, leans against the split stone. Its original role is uncertain. Single orthostats that increase slightly in height toward the front form the sides of the chamber, and it is closed by a backstone between their ends. A large thick slab laid flat between the sidestones forms the floor of the chamber. The flooring slab supports both sidestones. These are set outside it and lean inward against it. The backstone stands on top of the flooring slab. The northern sidestone, its inner end obscured by the cairn, is 1m high. The southern sidestone is 1.15m in greatest height. The backstone, slightly gabled in outline, is 1.15m high and rises 0.15–0.3m above the inner ends of the sidestones. The floor-slab covers the entire area of the chamber except for a small space in each rear angle. A small displaced slab, not on plan, lies in the southern rear angle. The inner end of the floor-slab is hidden by the backstone and cairn behind it. It is 1.35m wide, at least 1.8m long and at least 0.4m thick.

The massive floor-slab is an unusual feature, as is its relationship to the backstone, and in view of the restoration of the monument there must be a concern about the authenticity of the arrangement here. As both sidestones and the backstone are clearly identifiable on the pre-restoration drawing from the Stokes collection, it is hardly likely that the whole is a result of Board of Works restructuring. In regard to the relative positions of the backstone and floorstone, a possible parallel is suggested in an old report that claims that the sidestones of an unidentified chamber at Farranmacbride (Dg. 56), when cleared, were found to rest on a ‘basement slab’ (see final paragraph of description of that monument).

The twin galleries

The northern gallery

The twin galleries are linked at the E by an orthostat 1.25m high. The northern gallery is c. 5.8m long. Its front chamber is 3m long and seems to have been c. 2.6m or a little more wide. The second chamber is 2.4m long and



Plate 132. Malin More (Dg. 95). Northern subsidiary chamber from west.



Plate 133. Malin More (Dg. 95). Southern subsidiary chamber from west-north-west.



Plate 134. Malin More (Dg. 95). Southern subsidiary chamber from east-south-east.

narrows from 2.6m wide at its outer end to 1.9m at the back. A single jamb, at the N, marks the entrance to the front chamber. It is 1.4m in exposed height. Its top is level with that of the adjacent courtstone. The entrance jamb rises 0.5m above the adjacent sidestone, which is 0.6m in exposed height. Beyond this the line of the chamber is represented by a facing of cairn material for a distance of 1.8m. A displaced slab lying above the E end of this facing measures 2.35m by at least 0.5m and is 0.25m thick. At the front of the S side of this chamber

Plate 135. Malin More (Dg. 95). Northern of two main galleries from east. Ranging-poles at segmenting jambs.



is a small orthostat that adjoins the stone linking the two galleries. This is 0.35m in exposed height. The next orthostat is outside the line of the first, rises 0.8m above it and is 1.15m high. A displaced stone lies in the chamber, inside the last. It measures 1.65m by 0.45m and is *c.* 0.1m thick.

The division between the chambers consists of transversely set jambs, 0.75m apart. Outside each is an orthostat that serves as a sidestone to both chambers. The northern jamb is 1.15m high and rises 0.15m above the orthostat outside it. The southern jamb is 0.9m high, and the orthostat outside it is 1m high.

A single orthostat forms the greater part of each side of the inner chamber, which is closed by a gabled backstone between their inner ends. The sidestone at the N is 1.1m high, and that at the S is 1m high. The backstone, 1.2m high, leans inward slightly. It is the same height as the sidestone to the N and rises 0.15m above that to the S. The backstone supports the eastern end of an inclined slab, the opposite end of which rests on the surface of the cairn. This slab measures 1.7m by 1.6m and is 0.2m thick. Between it and the top of the backstone is a small pad-stone, 0.1m thick. The presence of the pad-stone suggests that the inclined slab may be a corbel *in situ*.

A stone 'seat' occupies the northern half of the inner chamber. It consists of a large slab laid horizontally on two opposed upright stones, both at right angles to the chamber side. The eastern upright is close to the segmenting jamb and is 0.35m high. The western upright, close to the backstone, is 0.45m high. The slab laid on these measures 2.3m by 0.95m and is 0.15m thick. It rocks slightly on its supports. The age and function of this deliberately contrived feature are uncertain, but it seems to have been in place before the restoration carried out by the Board of Works, as it appears to be represented on Ferguson's (1879, 122) plan of the monument.

The southern gallery

The southern gallery, 5m long, is somewhat better preserved than the northern. Corbelling survives along both its sides; the segmenting jambs between its two chambers carry a lintel; and a roofstone covers much of the rear chamber. The front chamber is *c.* 2.5m long and 2.25–2.5m wide. The rear chamber is 2.3m long and narrows from 2m wide at the front to 1.5m at the back.

Entry to this gallery is between two well-matched, transversely set jambs, 0.7m apart and of similar height. The northern one is 1.25m in exposed height, and the southern, set inside the line of the gallery, is 1.1m. A large slab on the ground immediately in front of these may be a fallen lintel. It measures 2.3m by 1.4m and is 0.55m thick. Two orthostats form the N side of the front chamber, and one its S side. Two corbels rest on each side. The outer orthostat at the N is 0.8m in exposed height. The adjoining jamb rises 0.25m above it. The orthostat supports a horizontally laid corbel. The inner end of the corbel rests directly on the orthostat, but there is some dry-walling between both at their outer ends. The corbel is now split into three pieces (the lines of the split are shown pecked on plan and section) but retains, more or less, its original position. When intact it measured 1.5m by 0.6m by 0.2m thick. The inner orthostat on this side is *c.* 0.3m taller than the outer one. A corbel, laid more or less horizontally, overlies its inner end. This measures 1.1m by 0.6m by 0.1m thick. Underneath this, in the gap between the upper half of the orthostat and the segmenting jamb, is a blocking of dry-walling, 0.45m deep, which may be original (not shown on plan or section). The single orthostat forming the S side of the chamber is



Plate 136. Malin More (Dg. 95). Southern of two main galleries from east. Ranging-poles at entrance jambs.



Plate 137. Malin More (Dg. 95). Dry-walling in south-west corner of front chamber of southern of two main galleries.

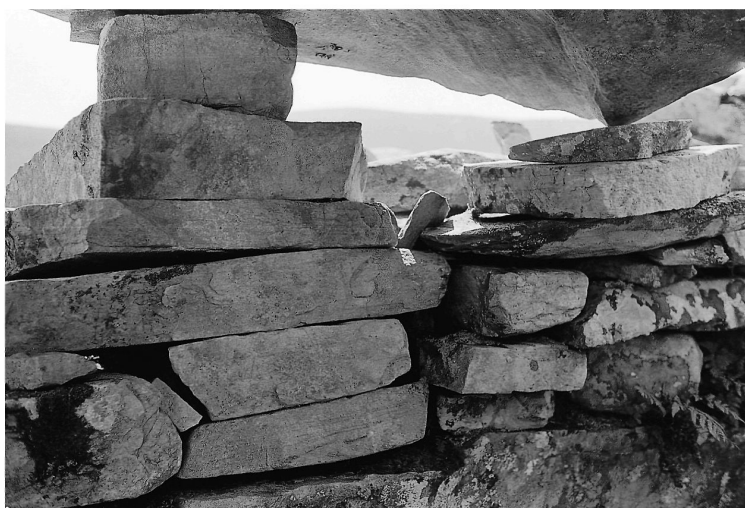


Plate 138. Malin More (Dg. 95). Dry-walling between sidestone and roofstone on south side of inner chamber of southern of two main galleries.

1.1m high and partly overlaps the entrance jamb. There is a crack in this stone at mid-length (indicated by a pecked line on the plan). A corbel rests above either end of it. That at the E, 1.25m by 0.55m by 0.15m thick, sits directly on dry-walling (not on plan), 0.25m high, on top of the orthostat and is wedged against the inner face of the entrance jamb. The second corbel here, 1.4m by 0.5m by 0.25m thick, is supported in position on the sidestone by a substantial portion of well-preserved dry-walling (not on plan), 0.5m high, that occupies the space between the upper part of the sidestone and the segmenting jamb beside it. Four slabs lie in the chamber, all perhaps part of the original roof structure. Their maximum horizontal dimensions range from 0.9m to 1.95m, and

they are 0.1–0.35m thick.

Transversely set segmenting jambs, both inset in the gallery walls, mark the division between the two chambers. These are well-matched stones, standing 0.4m apart, and each is 1m high. The lintel above these, rectangular in cross-section, is 3m long, 0.4m wide and 0.7m deep.

One large sidestone, on which there is a corbel, forms the N side of the inner chamber; there are two sidestones at the S; and it is closed by a gabled backstone. The northern sidestone is 1.25m high. Its E end rises 0.2m above the top of the adjoining segmenting jamb, and the base of its W end rises clear of the floor of the chamber. The corbel here is about midway along the sidestone. Its outer end rests on the fill between the two galleries. It measures 1.25m by 1.05m and is 0.25m thick. The outer one of the two sidestones on the S side of the chamber leans inward slightly and is 1.1m high. The inner sidestone, a larger one, also leans inward. It is 1m high. Above this, except at its extremities, is a section of neatly built dry-walling that may be an original feature. This walling is 1.25m long and 0.65m in greatest height and maintains the inward pitch of the sidestone. Six courses are present (shown on section). The backstone, 1.3m high, leans outward slightly. The roofstone covers all but the innermost 0.5m of the chamber. It is 2m long, 1.95m in maximum width and 0.25m thick. Generally triangular, its corners rest on the corbel at the N, the dry-walling at the S and the lintel above the segmenting jambs at the E. Its E end is tilted upward slightly.

Before the involvement of the Board of Works this gallery seems to have been largely concealed and perhaps inaccessible, as it does not appear to be shown as a chambered area on Ferguson's (1879, 122) plan. Nevertheless, the lintel above the segmenting jambs and the roofstone covering the inner chamber appear on that plan in their present positions. The same two stones can be seen in the background on the drawing from the Stokes collection. The rear chamber of this gallery is omitted from a Board of Works plan of the monument (CPW 1887, 63, fig. 6).

The decorated stones

The two decorated stones both bear picked ornament on the surfaces facing into the court. That flanking the front of the southern subsidiary chamber is a low stone (Stone B on plan), slightly rounded on top, 1.45m long by 0.6m in exposed height. The decoration, confined to its western half, is formed by picked lines *c.* 0.01m wide and is quite well preserved. There are two concentric circles here, the inner 0.1m in diameter and the outer, which is penannular, 0.18m in diameter. From the top of the outer circle a curved line in the shape of a crook, 0.21m long, runs toward the edge of the stone. From close to the lower part of this circle another such line, this more markedly in the shape of a crook, 0.23m long, also runs toward the edge of the stone. Below this is a slight depression or dot, less than 0.02m across, perhaps artificial. Below this, close together, are two more or less upright strokes, 0.11m and 0.08m long.

The decorated stone (Stone A on plan) at the front of the northern subsidiary chamber is pointed on top. As mentioned earlier, it is 0.95m long and 0.35m thick and rises 0.7m above present ground level, but a further 0.3m of its face is revealed in a hole dug in the boggy surface in front of the stone. A natural ridge on the face of the



Plate 139. Malin More (Dg. 95).
Decorated Stone A.