



Plate 140. Malin More (Dg. 95).
Decorated Stone B.

stone divides the lower one-third from the rest. Above the ridge, at the W, are two curved lines, one above the other, both in the form of a crook. The lower one is 0.25m long, and the upper is 0.2m. The hooked end of the lower one ends in a small depression or dot, and near the hooked end of the other is a similar dot-like depression. Beside the upper of these two motifs are two arcs, one above the other. The longer one, at 0.19m, is the lower. Below these is a lozenge measuring 0.25m along its vertical axis and 0.12m across its horizontal axis, with two of its sides slightly incurved. It is gapped at three of its four angles. Beyond this and near the eastern edge of the stone are three broadly concentric arcs, the outermost the longest at 0.25m. Below the natural ridge on the face of the stone are three motifs: at the W is a serpentiform line in the form of the letter S, 0.24m long; beside this is a lozenge, 0.26m along its vertical axis and 0.1m across, unjoined at top and bottom and with a rounded 'angle' at each side; and beside this is a curved line in the form of a crook, 0.26m long.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 3–6 (sketch); OS Revision Name Book, sheet 89 (1848–50), 29; W. Stokes 1868, 387 ('a circular monument containing twelve large tombs' may refer); Fergusson 1872, 226; N. Moore 1872, 523 ('Some distance up Glen Malin...is another group, E, of stone monuments'; with rudimentary sketch); Ferguson 1879, 121–2 (plan); Lawrence photograph collection, no. 1411 (c. 1880–1910); CPW 1886, 22; CPW 1887, 24, 63 (plan of tomb and drawings of decorated stones); CPW 1888, 24; Anon. 1890–91a, 260–61; Anon. 1890–91b; Wakeman 1890–91, 264–5 (drawings); CPW 1892, 24 ('Cloughan More' may refer); CPW 1893, 28 ('Cloughan More' may refer); Borlase 1897, 240–44, Banagh no. 1, with drawings (incorrectly locates the tomb in Cashel townland and on OS six-inch sheet 90); RSAI photograph collection (c. 1900); H. Morris 1933, 27; Mahr 1937, 426, no. 20; Price 1941, 71–2; Davies and Evans 1943, 18 (plan after Watson); H. Morris 1947, 41, no. B4; Crozier 1957, 70; de Valera 1960, 108, DG. 19 (plan after Watson, photographs of decorated stones); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 290; E.E. Evans 1966, 90–91; Flanagan and Flanagan 1966, 19; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Herity 1971, 28 (plan); Shee Twohig 1981, 235 (drawings of decorated stones after de Valera); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 26, no. 37; SMR 1987, 89:12; Van Hoek 1988, 26 (figs.); Killanin and Duignan 1989, 193; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; Herity 1990, 44 (photographs); RMP 1995, 89:12.

96. Malin More. OS 89:8:1 (75.5 43.6). Not marked (1904–5). OD 400–500. G 526 821. Plate 141.
Fig. 65.

Court tomb

This monument, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, is the easternmost of the seven tombs (Dg. 90–96) in the valley opening onto Malin Bay. It stands in boggy pasture at the head of the valley, c. 800m SE of the last described (Dg. 95). There is a good outlook from the site westward along the valley toward the sea, 3km away, and to the S is another view of the sea. Leahan Mountain restricts the view to the SW.

The remains of an E-facing gallery of at least two chambers survive here. At the W end, or back, of the gallery is a narrow chamber, and in front of this are the remnants of a larger one. Approximately 3.5m E of this is a single

Plate 141. Malin More (Dg. 96), from east-south-east.



orthostat of uncertain function. This is 1.25m long, 0.35m thick and 0.5m high. Between it and the larger of the two chambers is a round stone-built structure, 3.3m in overall diameter. This may be the remains of a limekiln shown at or near this spot on the 1848–50 edition of the OS six-inch map. Only its lower levels now remain. A large slab, 1.3m in maximum dimension, incorporated in the N side of this may be a displaced orthostat. At the eastern edge of this structure and extending to the NE are at least six displaced slabs. These range from 0.8m to 1.75m in maximum dimension and from 0.3m to 0.4m thick. Approximately 2.5m E of the S end of the ruined structure is a line of five stones, 3.3m long, rising 0.2–0.5m above the boggy surface. These are up to 0.7m long and 0.4m thick. They seem firmly set, but their status is unclear.

Only three orthostats remain of the larger chamber. Its outer end is marked by a stone set transversely to the long axis of the gallery, which seems to be a jamb. This is 0.75m high. Approximately 0.6m to the SE is a low stone that rises 0.3m above the boggy surface. It is firmly set, but its status is uncertain. Two opposed sidestones mark the inner end of the chamber and converge toward the W to meet the transversely set segmenting jambs that mark the division between it and the small rear chamber. The northern sidestone, which leans inward, is 0.7m high. The southern is around the same height, but only its upper 0.35m is exposed. This chamber was *c.* 2.5m long.

The segmenting jambs are well matched and stand 0.35m apart. Both are 0.6m high. A lintel, 1.6m by 0.7m and 0.5m thick, rests on both jambs and on the sides of the inner chamber. Originally it may have rested only on the jambs.

The rear chamber is 2m long and narrows from 1.3m at the front to 0.95m or less at the back. It seems to have been noticeably narrower than the other chamber. The sides are represented by single orthostats. Both are 0.7m high. The low gabled backstone, set inside the end of the northern sidestone, is 0.6m high.

The monument appears to have been in its present state in the 1840s (Fagan 1845–8). The original design is not now clear, but if the orthostat to the E can be relied on it appears that the gallery was *c.* 10m or more in length. It seems that the disturbed and scattered nature of the remains accounts for Norman Moore's (1872) claim, later quoted by Borlase (1897), that there is a group of 'five or six cromlechs' at this location.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 1–2; N. Moore 1872, 523–4 ('This, which is the group furthest from the sea, is of five or six cromlechs, but only one is in good preservation'); Borlase 1897, 249, under Banagh nos. 9–20 (quotes Moore); de Valera 1960, 108, DG. 20; Killanin and Duignan 1962, 290; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Herity 1971, 31, no. 37; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 26, no. 38; SMR 1987, 89:13; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; Herity 1990, 44, no. 35; RMP 1995, 89:13.

97. Meenbog. OS 68:6:1 (16.2 38.2). Not marked (1906). OD 700–800. C 058 010. Plate 142. Fig. 69.

Court tomb

This monument is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map. It is on a great expanse of bog-grown

hill-land *c.* 4km N of the River Finn and *c.* 11km NW of Ballybofey. It stands on a level patch on sloping ground and commands an extensive outlook to the S across the Finn valley. The Blue Stack mountains form the skyline to the SW, and rising ground restricts the outlook to the N. Bog growth in the vicinity, as revealed in a cutting 4m SE of the monument, is *c.* 1m high.

The structural remains consist of a court at the SSE leading to a ruined gallery. The structure stands in a cairn distinguished in part by its stony surface but in the main by a growth of bright green grass that contrasts with the darker, somewhat coarse grass on the surrounding bog. A line of rushes also helps to define the long sides of the cairn, which at its centre rises no more than 0.5m above the level of the bog. There is no trace of the cairn beyond the modern field bank that crosses the N end of the site. Immediately S of this field bank is a ditch (not on plan), its sides largely collapsed. The cairn is more or less trapezoidal in plan. It measures 20m N–S and narrows from 15.5m wide close to its southern end to 11m at the N.

The courtstones are incorporated in a low grass-grown spread of stones that seems to be the remains of a small rectangular feature (pecked on plan), perhaps the base of a hut of relatively modern date. The two entrance jambs at the front of the gallery lie on the court perimeter. A single courtstone survives outside the western jamb, and there are two beside the eastern. Approximately 3.5m S of the outer one of these is an upright stone that may be another courtstone, but, as it is close to the apparent entrance to the hut-like feature, it may have been placed here as a door jamb of that structure.

The entrance jambs to the gallery are 0.5m apart. The western one is 0.3m high, and the eastern one is 0.6m high. The courtstone adjoining the western jamb is 0.9m in exposed height and rises 0.4m above it. The courtstone beside the eastern jamb is 1.4m high and rises 0.8m above it. The next courtstone is 0.7m high. The possible courtstone to the S of this is 0.6m high.

All but the front of the gallery is considerably concealed by cairn material. It is at least 6.5m long, is 1.5m wide at the front and seems to have narrowed toward the rear. The sides of the front chamber, which is *c.* 2m long, are represented by single stones. That at the E leans inward, and its outer face is largely hidden. It rises 0.3m clear of the surface of the cairn. The orthostat at the W is 0.2m high. A pair of longitudinally set jambs, 0.6m apart, form the segmentation between the front chamber and the rest of the gallery. That at the E is 0.35m high, and that at the W is 0.4m high.

Three orthostats (hatched on plan) indicate the continuation of the gallery. The first of these, a sidestone, is next to the eastern segmenting jamb. It is exposed to a depth of 0.6m. Beside this to the N, part of the face of an otherwise concealed stone, at least 0.3m long, is exposed in a hole in the cairn. Its status is uncertain. The second orthostat, also a sidestone, is 2.4m N of the western segmenting jamb, and its northern end overlaps the third orthostat, which is set inside it. Both are exposed in a hole in the cairn measuring 2.8m long and 0.8m wide. The second is exposed to a depth of 0.9m, and the third rises 0.3m above it. At the southern end of the hole in which these stones are exposed, what appears to be a transversely set stone is visible at a depth of 0.4m below the top of the cairn. Its status is unclear. Approximately 1.4m N of the two orthostats on this side is a small stone, and 0.3m further N is the outer end of another, transversely set one. Both appear to be firmly set, but further



Plate 142. Meenbog (Dg. 97), from south-south-west.

investigation would be required to establish their status. The southern one rises 0.3m clear of the cairn. The northern one is the same height as the last.

The design of the gallery beyond the front chamber is unclear. There seems to have been at least two further chambers here, and the possibility that there were four chambers in all cannot be ruled out.

Mac Meanman 1985 (dolmen near 'Doonan Old House' seems to refer); SMR 1987, 68:2; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; Verling 1990, 126; RMP 1995, 68:2.

98. Meencargagh. OS 77:11:4 (48.7 17.6 approx.). Not marked (1904). OD 600–700. H 082 924.
Plate 143. Fig. 57.

Wedge tomb

This monument, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, came to notice in 1989. It is in a large, mature, coniferous forest, planted 30 or more years ago on a rock-strewn, boggy, S-facing hillside c. 6km SW of Ballybofey. Though evidently damaged during the planting process, the main features of the tomb are still apparent. Since its recognition the immediately surrounding trees have been felled, and it now stands in a small clearing.

The monument consists of the remains of a gallery orientated almost W–E that seems to have been at least 3.5m long and is divided by a septal-stone into a portico and main chamber. Two outer-wall stones are visible at the N, and there is a single facade-stone at the SW. Further structure may remain buried toward the E. A hole dug in the western half of the gallery opens into a drain running to the SW from the front of the monument. This disturbed area is indicated by a dotted line on the plan. Just E of the septal-stone is a tree stump (not on plan), and immediately beyond this a large displaced slab lies across the gallery. This measures 1.3m by 1m by 0.15m thick. A smaller displaced stone, 0.7m by 0.35m and at least 0.15m thick, protrudes from under the E edge of this.

The relative positions of the facade-stone and the septal-stone indicate that the portico was c. 1m long. The westernmost of the four sidestones representing the S side of the gallery is set outside the septal-stone and forms part of the portico side. The rest of the portico sidestones are missing or displaced. Two displaced slabs rest one above the other in the portico area. The lower one measures at least 1.6m in maximum dimension and may have been a roofstone. The upper one measures over 1m by 0.6m and 0.25m thick and may have been a sidestone.

The lone facade-stone leans toward the gallery. It would stand 1m high if upright. The septal-stone is exposed to a depth of 0.7m at its southern end. The top surface of this stone dips 0.25m over its length from S to N.

The entire N side of the main chamber is missing or possibly concealed. On the S side the sidestone flanking the septal-stone leans outward slightly. It is 0.5m in exposed height. The heights of the next three sidestones from W to E are 0.4m, 0.1m and 0.08m. The flat top of another stone, 0.25m across, is visible at ground level between



Plate 143. Meencargagh (Dg 98), from west.

the last two, but its status is uncertain. It is shown in pecked outline on the plan.

The western of the two outer-wall stones at the N stands outside the portico area. It leans markedly inward and would stand 0.65m high if upright. The other outer-wall stone here is *c.* 1m to the E and is 0.3m high.

In 1846 Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited a ‘pagan sepulture’ known as ‘Labbagrana’ in this townland, but it is not clear whether it and the monument described here are one and the same (see Appendix 1, no. 84).

Verling 1990, 126; RMP 1995, 77:24.

99. Meenformal. OS 27:13:4 (4.4 2.4). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1905). OD 500–600. C 132 293. Plates 144 and 145. Fig. 67.

Wedge tomb

This monument is *c.* 2km E of Glen Lough on an elevated boggy plateau in rough pasture. There is a distant outlook westward from the site, but that to the E is limited by the rising ground extending north-eastward from Loughsalt Mountain.

The tomb is enveloped in the bog, and some structure may still remain concealed. It consists of a wedge-shaped gallery, orientated SW–NE, linked by a single facade-stone at the N to the remains of outer-walling standing not more than 0.5m beyond both sides of the gallery. A jamb-like stone one-third of the way along the gallery may indicate a division into a portico, *c.* 1.5m long, and main chamber. The greater part of the S side of the gallery is concealed by a field wall that also crosses the SW end of the structure. Five roofstones, some partly dislodged, lie along the gallery. An oval mound, now bog grown, measuring 9.5m NE–SW by 6.5m NW–SE and 0.5m high, surrounds the structure.

The gallery, measured from a point in line with the facade-stone to the orthostat closing its E end, is 4.4m long. It is 1.6m wide at the W and narrows to *c.* 1m at the lower, eastern end. A partly concealed sidestone is visible at either end of the S side of the gallery. That to the W is 0.5m high, and that to the E, which flanks the gallery backstone, is 0.4m high. The N side of the gallery is represented by four orthostats, all somewhat concealed. These vary from 0.35m to 0.45m in exposed height. The jamb-like stone in the gallery, 0.4m high, extends inward from the W end of the second sidestone at the N. It is partly concealed by the roofstone above it, and hence difficult to examine, but appears to be a structural stone. The stone closing the E end of the gallery is set between the ends of the gallery sides. It is 0.4m high. The role of a stone at right angles to the southern end of the last is unclear. It may indicate a continuation of the gallery to the E or may serve as a buttress. This stone is 0.2m high.

The roofstones lie with their longer axes across the gallery and appear to have rested directly on the gallery sides. The N end of the western roofstone has fallen onto the floor of the gallery. That next to it is also somewhat displaced, and both are partly concealed by the field wall. The other three seem to be more or less in place but



Plate 144. Meenformal (Dg. 99), from south-west.

Plate 145. Meenformal (Dg. 99), from north-west.



are partly hidden by grass-grown peat. It is clear that the third roofstone overlies the western edge of the fourth. It is not possible to ascertain the precise dimensions of these stones, but they average 1.5m long (N–S) by *c.* 0.5–0.8m wide and are all at least 0.15m thick.

The facade-stone at the NW corner of the monument is 0.9m high. Just 0.15m from the back of this and roughly parallel to it is a second stone, apparently effecting a doubling of the facade. This is 0.45m lower than the first. Two outer-wall stones stand at right angles to the outer end of the facade-stone. The western one is 0.35m lower than the facade-stone. The eastern one is 0.45m high. Four outer-wall stones are exposed beyond the S side of the gallery, one to the E and the three others together midway along the monument. These four stones vary from 0.4m to 0.6m long and are up to 0.3m thick. The second and third of these lean outward. When all were upright their heights from W to E would have been 0.7m, 0.7m, 0.45m and 0.1m. A prostrate slab lies 0.7m S of the western end of the gallery. This may be a displaced outer-wall stone. It measures 0.5m by at least 0.7m and is 0.3m thick. In line with the S side of the gallery and 0.8m in front of it is a small set stone, 0.3m long and at least 0.1m thick, that rises no more than 0.05m above ground level. Its status is uncertain. A prostrate slab, 1.3m in maximum dimension and 0.2m thick, lies at the western end of the mound.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 27 (1848–9), 30; L.W. Lucas 1962, 13; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 43, no. 112; SMR 1987, 27:28; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; RMP 1995, 27:28.

100. Meenkeeragh. OS 29:11:3 (67.8 22.6). Not marked (1904). OD 600–700. C 393 315. Plates 146 and 147. Fig. 68.

Wedge tomb

This monument is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map. It is on the wet, boggy, S-facing slope of Meenkeeragh Hill overlooking the valley of the Owenkillew River. There is a view along this valley to Lough Swilly, 5km to the W. South of the tomb and beyond the valley is a range of high ground with mountain peaks. A northward extension of this range limits the outlook to the E.

The monument may have been opened in the second half of the 19th century (Colhoun 1995). Now deeply embedded in peat, it stands in a bog-grown subrectangular mound, *c.* 0.5m high, measuring 13.8m WSW–ENE by 8.5m. It consists of the inner end of a gallery flanked at both sides by outer-walling, with the remains of an elaborate facade at the WSW. Two opposed sidestones and a backstone at the ENE form the inner end of the gallery. There are two outer-wall stones around midway along the S side of the monument, and a possible third one to the E of these. A largely intact line of close-set outer-walling rises above the N side of the gallery. From around mid-length, both sides of the outer-walling diverge quite sharply toward the W. The intact N side of the outer-walling articulates with the facade, the northern half of which is represented by five stones. The southern half of the facade is missing except for a lone stone at the SW corner of the monument.

The surviving stones of the gallery are all the same height, and the inner face of each is exposed to a depth



Plate 146. Meenkeeragh (Dg. 100),
from east-north-east.



Plate 147. Meenkeeragh (Dg. 100).
North half of facade from east.

of 1m. The opposed sidestones are 1m apart. The backstone is set inside the end of the sidestone to the N and in turn overlaps the end of the southern sidestone.

The line of outer-walling at the N consists of five stones. The inner faces of these stones rise 0.25–0.45m clear of the bog. There is a stone between the easternmost of these and the inner end of the sidestone. This stone is exposed to a depth of 0.6m. The western one of the two outer-wall stones to the S of the gallery is 1.2m in exposed height and rises 0.1m above its neighbour. The largely concealed stone outside the S end of the backstone, as mentioned above, may be another outer-wall stone. Its inner face is exposed to a depth of 0.75m.

The facade seems to have been *c.* 5m wide. At the northern extremity two stones, 0.1m apart, are set face to face, and this arrangement is repeated *c.* 0.75m to the S, around midway along the facade. The gap between the two pairs of stones is spanned by a fifth slab, which stands immediately outside them. The inner one of the pair of stones at the N articulates with the W end of the outer-walling and is 0.5m in exposed height. The outer stone here rises 0.3m above the inner. It is set beyond the end of the outer-walling and is 0.8m in exposed height. The inner and outer stones of the pair midway along the facade are 0.7m and 0.9m in exposed height. The outer stone rises 0.3m above the inner. The stone spanning the gap between the two pairs of stones is 0.8m in exposed height. The lone stone at the southern end of the facade leans outward. It would stand 0.85m high if upright. Although it is uncertain how the missing forward part of the gallery articulated with this facade, an original gallery length of 3.5–4m seems indicated.

Colhoun 1949, 116; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 43, no. 113; SMR 1987, 29:36; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; Colhoun 1995, 71; RMP 1995, 29:36.

101. Meenletterbale. OS 12:8:3 (91.1 38.5). Not marked (1903). OD 500–600. C 612 460. Plate 148. Fig. 73.

Court tomb

The monument is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map. It is 1.3km from the NE coast of the Inishowen peninsula and stands on a level patch of furze-grown land c. 450m SE of the summit of Crockbrack Hill (OD 633 feet) and above the valley of the Long Glen River. The land below the monument has been reclaimed to provide pasture and a little tillage.

The surviving structure is very ruined. A roofless chamber stands at the NE, and beyond this to the SW are three orthostats, indicating that further structure existed here for a distance of at least 7m beyond the extant chamber. No traces of cairn can be recognised in the overgrowth around the structure.

The NE chamber is 4m long and 2.3m in maximum width. Its E end is marked by two longitudinally set jambs standing 0.9m apart. That at the S is 0.5m high, and that at the N is 0.3m high. A small firmly set stone, 0.15m high, at the E end of the latter may be a packing-stone. The jambs flank a sillstone, 0.35m high, standing between their inner ends. There is a gap of 1.5m between the northern jamb and the two surviving orthostats on the same side of the chamber. The eastern one of these is 1.1m high, and the western is 0.7m high. The two surviving orthostats on the S side stand 1.1m apart and are skewed so as to narrow the chamber at both ends. The eastern one is 1.1m high, and the western is 1m high. A pair of transversely set jambs, 0.25m apart, at the SW end of this chamber, separate it from the rest of the gallery. Each jamb stands inside the line of the adjoining sidestone. The northern one is a slight stone, 0.1m high. The southern one is now split but when intact was c. 0.35m thick. It is 1.05m long and 0.55m high. Approximately 2.7m beyond this is another transversely set stone, apparently a segmenting jamb. Between both is a largely concealed stone, at least 0.4m long. The status of this is uncertain, but it may signify intervening gallery structure. The transverse stone is 0.6m high. Standing end on to the SW face of this is another orthostat, which appears to be a sidestone. This is 0.9m high. Approximately 2.5m NW of this is another orthostat, 0.6m high. This may also be a sidestone, part of the northern side of the gallery. A prostrate slab beside it measures 1.25m in maximum dimension.

Approximately 3m S of the E end of the gallery is a set stone 0.3m high. It is on a fall of ground, and its top is below the ground level at the gallery. Its function is not clear. Between this and the front of the gallery is a prostrate slab measuring 1.3m in maximum dimension.

The monument is clearly the remains of a court tomb, but its precise design is not clear. The front of the gallery cannot be identified, nor can the number of chambers be satisfactorily established, although there seem to have been at least three.

Colhoun 1949, 116; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 27, no. 39; SMR 1987, 12:27; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; Colhoun 1995, 50; RMP 1995, 12:27.



Plate 148. Meenletterbale (Dg. 101), from north-east.

102. Mondooney Upper. OS 62:6:5 (31.7 30.9). 'Giant's Grave' (1906). OD 500–600. C 259 067.
Plate 149. Fig. 74.

Unclassified

This monument is in fair pasture on gently rolling ground. To the N is a fall in ground level toward the coast at the inner end of Lough Swilly *c.* 7km away. Mongorry Hill restricts the outlook to the S.

Five orthostats represent a megalithic chamber, *c.* 4m long, orientated ENE–WSW, perhaps originally part of a long gallery. A low gabled stone marks the W end of the chamber; three stones form the N side; and a single stone stands at the E end. There is a large displaced slab supported on a low stone to the S of the remains. This slab measures 2.1m by 1.7m by 0.3m thick, and the stone under it measures 1m by 0.5m by 0.35m high. The status of the supporting stone is uncertain. The structure stands in the corner of a field, where it is bounded on the E by a drainage ditch and on the W by a field bank. There is a low earthen bank with bushes along it (not on plan) *c.* 3m from the N side of the monument. There are cracks in three of the orthostats, suggesting a deliberate attempt to damage the site.

The stone at the W end of the chamber is 0.7m high. There is a break in this stone from base to top, midway along its length. The position of the break at ground level is indicated by a pecked line on the plan. The westernmost of the three stones forming the N side of the chamber is set with its flat face inward. It is 1.35m high. There is also a break in this stone from base to top. It overlaps and leans against the end of the middle orthostat, which is stepped-in somewhat from the stones at either side of it. This is 1.15m high. There is also a break in this stone from base to top. The easternmost sidestone, its inner face flat, is 0.2m lower than the middle one. The orthostat at the E end of the gallery, a flat-topped stone, is set inside the line of the last, which rises 0.7m above it. Its base is exposed at the S close to the drain, and, although it is slightly loose, there can be little doubt that it is *in situ*. Just 0.2m inside the S end of the western endstone is a small stone partly embedded in the ground. It measures 0.4m by 0.3m and rises 0.2m above ground level. It is clearly displaced.

An account of the monument by Thomas Fagan (1845–8) suggests that it was then in its present state. He noted that the stones that had formed the S side of the structure were then prostrate. However, a plan of the tomb by Kinahan (1885–6) shows a large stone in place on the S side of the gallery. This measured 7 feet (*c.* 2.15m) long, 6 feet (*c.* 1.8m) high and 1 foot (*c.* 0.3m) thick. These measurements compare closely with those of the large displaced slab at the site. Two additional stones, not now visible, appear on Kinahan's plan. One is shown outside the NW corner of the tomb, and the other outside the middle one of the three stones on the N side of the gallery. Their dimensions, recorded by Kinahan, show them to have been small low stones.

In 1982, when the plan was made, there was a hole, 0.6m by 0.45m and 0.7m deep, in the floor of the gallery. The upcast from this contained some charcoal and small stones that had been subjected to heat, but it was unclear whether this burnt material was ancient.

This may be the remains of a court tomb. The gabled stone at the W may well be a backstone, and the stone at E end a jamb, although further investigation would be required to confirm this. The monument must



Plate 149. Mondooney Upper (Dg. 102),
from south-west.

remain unclassified.

Fagan 1845–8, book 8, 26; Kinahan 1885–6, 428 (plan); Borlase 1897, 235, Raphoe North no. 3 (plan after Kinahan); de Valera 1960, 131, no. 6 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983, 46, no. 135; SMR 1987, 62:17; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; RMP 1995, 62:17.

103. Moyra Glebe. OS 25:10:1 (25.9 25.5). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1905). OD 100–200. B 959 316. Plate 150. Fig. 75.

Court tomb

This monument, 2.5km SSE of Falcarragh, stands 1km S of the court tomb in Ray townland (Dg. 107) and c. 250m E of the Ray River. To the N is a view toward the sandy beach stretching eastward from Ballyness Bay, 3.4km away, and to the S Muckish and Errigal mountains form the skyline. The tomb is at the edge of a small level tract of ground that provides rough pasture.

The tomb, which faces W, consists of the remains of an unroofed gallery, c. 4m long and 1.7m in greatest width. Two adjoining orthostats, almost 2m from the front of the gallery, represent the southern arm of a court. Some slight traces of a mound around the structure are too indefinite to show on the plan.

The outer one of the two adjoining orthostats of the court leans inward. It is 0.5m high. The inner one is 0.6m high. The entrance to the gallery is marked by a single transversely set jamb at the N. This leans outward and is 1m high. The first of the two orthostats on this side of the gallery is 0.9m high. That next to it is 0.6m high. There is a gap, 0.7m long, between this and the stone closing the back of the gallery. Three orthostats form the S side of the gallery. The first is 0.55m high, and the second is 0.5m high. A corbel, its outer end on the ground, rests on the opposed ends of these two orthostats. It measures 1m by 0.9m by 0.4m in greatest thickness. The third sidestone at the S overlaps and leans against the backstone. It is 0.6m high. The gable-shaped backstone is 1.2m high. Although no formal segmentation is present, the narrowing of the gallery achieved at the inner ends of the opposed sidestones at the front of the structure suggests that a two-chambered design may have been intended.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8), who visited here in 1845, noted a local claim that part of the gallery had been covered by ‘a great flag’ but that it and other stones of the structure had been removed. He also referred to the destruction of what may have been another tomb in the same townland (Appendix 1, no. 87).

Approximately 5m S of the tomb are two stones, one 0.85m and the other 0.7m high, and a third stone, 1m in maximum dimension, lies prostrate closeby. Another upright stone, 0.8m high, stands 11m downslope to the W. These appear to represent the remains of a curved stone wall.

Fagan 1845–8, book 3, 17–18; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 25 (1847–9), 18; de Valera 1960, 105, DG. 8 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 27, no. 40; SMR 1987, 25:38; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 25:38.



Plate 150. Moyra Glebe (Dg. 103), from east-north-east.

104. Muntermellan. OS 15:8:5 (81.5 32.2). 'Dermot and Grania's Bed' (1905). OD 300–400. C 018 387. Plates 151–4. Fig. 70.

Portal tomb

The monument is on a break in the south-eastern slopes of Horn Head peninsula and overlooks Dunfanaghy. It is on the floor of a small level tract of pasture, *c.* 100m N–S, which is flanked to the E and W by rocky ridges *c.* 40m apart. It is built at the base of the eastern of these ridges. Immediately S of the tomb the ground falls sharply to the inner reaches of Sheep Haven Bay *c.* 600m distant. There is an extensive outlook in this direction as far as Muckish Mountain, 10km away.

The monument consists of a long cairn, toward the northern end of which is a well-preserved portal tomb. The cairn is formed of slabs, the larger of which are up to 1m in maximum dimension. It is 24m long (N–S) and 9–10m wide over the forward two-thirds of its length, beyond which it narrows gradually toward the back. It is 1m or more in height. A rough wall, composed of cairn stones, has been heaped up along its south-eastern edge.

The chamber, which contains a fill of stones, is built with relatively thin slabs and stands almost 5m back from the broadly rounded N end of the cairn. It is 1.8m long and narrows from 1m wide near the front to 0.8m at the back. At the N are two tall portal-stones, set longitudinally, at either side of a doorstone that appears to be just over half their height. A single orthostat set outside the portal-stone forms each side of the chamber. The chamber is closed by a backstone set between the inner ends of the sidestones. There is a displaced corbel beside the western sidestone. A subsidiary roofstone, laid horizontally, covers the chamber area behind the portal-stones. A gap between the base of this roofstone and the top of the inner end of the eastern sidestone is blocked by a slab, leaning inward slightly, set outside of and rising above the sidestone. The subsidiary roofstone rests on the two sidestones. A small flat stone (not on plan) measuring 0.6m by 0.5m by 0.1m thick, resting on top of the cairn, is interposed between the underside of the roofstone and the top of the outer end of the eastern sidestone. This may not be an ancient feature. The main roofstone, now displaced, rests against the W side of the chamber. The cairn reaches to the tops of the sidestones.

Both portal-stones lean inward slightly. The gap between them, 0.35m at the front, widens to 0.55m at the doorstone. The eastern portal-stone is 2.5m high. The top edge of this stone slopes down toward the backstone. The top of the western one, which may be broken, is 0.2m lower than the eastern. The doorstone is 1.3m in exposed height. Its pointed top, which is *c.* 1m below the tops of the portal-stones, rises just above the level of the subsidiary roofstone and thus blocks entry to the chamber. Both sidestones lean in against the backstone and their respective portal-stones. They are around the same height as the doorstone. The western one is 1.2m in exposed height. The eastern one is 1.1m in exposed height at its N end, 1.3m at the middle, and slopes to ground level at the S. The inward-leaning stone set outside the inner end of this sidestone is 0.9m high. The backstone is 1.1m in exposed height. The displaced corbel outside the western sidestone is split, but the two pieces remain alongside each other. When intact it measured 1.15m by 1m by 0.1m thick. The subsidiary roofstone is 2.2m long, 1.85m wide at the front, narrowing to *c.* 0.8m near the back, and 0.15–0.25m thick. The large displaced



Plate 151. Muntermellan (Dg. 104). From east-north-east showing cairn.

Plate 152. Muntermellan (Dg. 104), from north.



Plate 153. Muntermellan (Dg. 104), from east.



Plate 154. Muntermellan (Dg. 104), from south.



roofstone is 3m long and narrows from 1.5m wide at its N end to 1m near the S end. It is 0.2–0.3m thick. The portal-stones, because they are quite thin slabs with their tops unusually close together, seem to have been unsuited to the task of supporting this substantial roofstone.

It is clear from OS documents of the mid-19th century that the monument was by then in its present state.

Fagan 1845–8, book 1, 9–10; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 15 (1847–9), 12; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 291–2 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 35, no. 69; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 93, Donegal no. 3; SMR 1987, 15:13; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; Cody 1995, 40–41 (plan); RMP 1995, 15:13.

105. Murroe. OS 25:3:4 (47.9 52.7). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1905). OD 200–300. B 982 345.
Fig. 74.

Unclassified

The monument stands on a level tract of boggy pasture 1.6km E of the court tomb (Dg. 52) in Errarooey Beg townland and 1.5km S of the sandy beach to the E of Dooros Point. Muckish Mountain and the peaks to its SW form the skyline to the S.

The monument, poorly preserved and obscured by bushes, is difficult to interpret. Five orthostats are present. At the W two opposed stones with flat inner and sloping outer faces stand 1.8m apart. Both are aligned E–W. The northern one is 0.7m high, and the southern one is 0.75m high. Beside the E end of the last, and angled to the NE, is a stone 1.2m in exposed height. The fourth orthostat is immediately SE of this. It is 1m in exposed height. The fifth orthostat, 0.45m in exposed height, adjoins the SE end of the last. A piece may have been broken from the top of this stone. A displaced stone, 0.7m by at least 0.8m by 0.5m, lies against the W face of this stone. There is another displaced stone, 1.8m by 1m by 0.6m, c. 0.5m S of this, which rests on a small stone (not on plan). Approximately 2.5m to the NE is another displaced stone. This measures 1.2m by 1m and is over 0.3m thick. There is a grass-grown mound, stony underfoot, around the structure, but its limits cannot readily be defined in the heavy overgrowth. Some loose stones also lie on and around the site.

Intermittent stones, protruding up to 0.5m from the bog-grown surface, form a curved line c. 10m to the N and W of the monument. These appear to represent an ancient fence.

According to Fagan (1845–8), this monument had been considerably ruined by the mid-19th century. Among the ruins he noted one ‘grave’, which was ‘7 feet [c. 2.15m] long and 4 feet [c. 1.2m] wide...enclosed at sides by two slabs over 5½ feet [c. 1.7m] in length each placed edgewise along the grave and inclining inward from base to top where they nearly close over the grave the ends of which close by smaller stones’. He also claimed that many ‘graves’ had been destroyed here.

The remains cannot be classified, but the two opposed orthostats at the site, with their flat inner and sloping outer faces, are similar to the corbel-bearing orthostats frequently present in court tombs and may represent a chamber aligned E–W.

Fagan 1845–8, book 3, 16; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 46, no. 136; SMR 1987, 25:9; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; RMP 1995, 25:9.

106. Rashenny. OS 11:1:1 (2.3 53.2). ‘Standing Stone’ (1903). OD 300–400. C 421 475. Plate 155.
Fig. 74.

Unclassified

The monument, 5km NW of Carndonagh, is on a gentle NW-facing slope 1.2km from Trawbreaga Bay, which is visible across low-lying ground to the N. The site is in pasture broken by occurrences of outcropping rock.

Little of the monument survives. Two opposed orthostats may be interpreted as the sides of a gallery orientated NNE–SSW. The western one, pitched markedly outward, appears to have been skewed somewhat from its original position. South of each is a large prostrate slab. Both slabs may be fallen orthostats. Between 1.5m and 2m from the western side of the structure a drop in ground level, which can be traced over a distance of 10m, may represent the side of an enclosing mound.

The eastern orthostat, 1.05m long at ground level, is 1.35m in overall length when an overhang at its N end is included in the measurement. It is 1.3m high. The western orthostat would stand 0.85m high if upright. The western one of the prostrate slabs measures 1.7m by 1.3m by at least 0.2m thick. The eastern one, largely grass grown, is at least 1.5m in maximum dimension and over 0.1m thick.

Plate 155. Rashenny (Dg. 106), from west-north-west.



An account of the tomb in an OS Revision Name Book (1848) shows it to have been then in a more complete state of preservation: ‘These Standing Stones appear to be the remains of one of those remarkable antiquities called Labby Dermot and Grania. Its length northward is 15 feet [*c.* 4.6m] and main breadth 6 feet [*c.* 1.8m]. [It] is composed of four upright stones on the west side from 3 to 4 feet [*c.* 1.05–1.2m] high and two at the south end from 3 to 5 feet [*c.* 0.9–1.5m] high and one lying prostrate or rather in a sloping position 6 feet [*c.* 1.8m] long and 4 feet [*c.* 1.2m] broad. The east side is altogether destroyed.’ Although it is not clear how the last sentence can be reconciled with the existing remains, it seems that a megalithic gallery stood here.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 11 (1848), 2; Lacy 1983, 85, no. 472; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; Colhoun 1995, 40, no. 11/49; RMP 1995, 11:5.

107. Ray. OS 25:6:4 (25.8 35.2). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1905). OD 0–100. B 959 326. Plate 156. Fig. 50.

Court tomb

This tomb lies *c.* 1km S of the court tomb in Ballyboe (Dg. 5) and around the same distance N of another in Moyra Glebe (Dg. 103) and stands 600m E of the Ray River. It is sited near the top of a slight ridge on low-lying farmland almost 2.5km from the coast. The sea is visible to the N, and to the S Muckish and Errigal mountains form the skyline.

The monument consists of the remains of a chamber facing ESE. Three orthostats—a backstone, a sidestone



Plate 156. Ray (Dg. 107), from south.

and a jamb—are present and indicate a chamber length of 3.7m. The structure stands in a mound measuring 7m N–S by almost 6m E–W and up to 1m high. Much of the content of the mound appears to consist of dumped field stones, although some partly buried sizeable ones (not on plan) may be displaced structural stones.

The backstone, at the WNW, is tall and gabled in outline. It rises 1.3m above the surface of the mound and 1.7m above field level alongside. The sidestone, on the southern side of the chamber, is *c.* 0.7m lower than the backstone. The jamb is 0.9m ESE of the sidestone. It is transversely set and is *c.* 0.15m taller than the sidestone. Approximately 0.5m N of the jamb a slab measuring 1.6m by 0.9m by at least 0.7m thick lies prostrate on the mound. This may be a fallen jamb. In the middle of the 19th century two upright stones stood at this end of the chamber (OS Revision Name Book, 1847–9). The same source also recorded that a prostrate stone, 6½ feet (*c.* 2m) long and 3½ feet (*c.* 1.05m) broad, then lying at the northern side of the chamber, may have been a fallen sidestone.

There can be little doubt that the remains represent the endchamber of a court tomb gallery.

Fagan 1845–8, book 3, 7; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 25 (1847–9), 12; de Valera 1960, 130, no. 5 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 27, no. 41; SMR 1987, 25:35; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 25:35.

108. Roosky Upper. OS 69:16:4 (74.6 5.1). ‘Stone Circle (Remains of)’ (1906). OD 400–500. H 207 975. Plate 157. Fig. 71.

Court tomb

This monument stands on good, generally level pasture around halfway between the River Deele, *c.* 6km to the N, and the River Finn, *c.* 7km to the S, and 3.8km S of the village of Convoy. The view to the W is restricted by a gentle rise in ground level, but there is an extensive outlook in other directions.

The monument is a dual-court tomb aligned almost N–S. Entry to a large, reasonably well-preserved full court at the N is via an entrance passage flanked at either side by a single facade-stone. The opposite end of this court opens onto a roofless gallery now 10.5m long and up to 3.5m wide. A slight inturn of the W side of the gallery may mark a point of segmentation. At the southern end of the monument is a greatly ruined full court, smaller than that at the northern end, in front of which there are four stones, the arrangement of which suggests that they represent an entrance passage. This court leads to the scant remains of an unroofed gallery, now 9m long and also up to 3.5m wide. This gallery lacks any reliable indication of segmentation. The open ends of both galleries are 5m apart, and so it appears that they may have had separate backstones. A modern field wall meanders along the entire length of the monument; it incorporates in its course the W side of the northern court, the front of the northern gallery and the E sides of both galleries and it crosses the southern court and runs along the E side of the entrance thereto. A number of large stones now in the field wall are likely to have originally formed part of the monument. These, along with a number of displaced stones scattered around the site, have in most instances been omitted from the plan.

Some kerbstones are visible along both sides of the monument *c.* 3.5m beyond the sides of the galleries. The E and W sides of this kerb are 11–12m apart. Five kerbstones, three of which are contiguous, can reliably be identified at the W side of the northern half of the monument. None of these exceeds 0.5m in height. Some other stones (not on plan) rising just above ground level in this area are of uncertain origin. There are three groups, each of three contiguous kerbstones, at the E side of the monument. These nine stones range from 0.25m to 0.8m in exposed height at their outer faces.

There is a substantial grass-grown mound to the E of the field wall crossing the monument. This extends well beyond the eastern side of the kerb. It may include material cleared from the fields. It measures 54m long, narrows from 14m wide at the N to *c.* 4m at the S, and is *c.* 1m in overall height. The level of the mound drops abruptly along the line of the kerb at the N, a feature indicated by a pecked line on the plan.

Northern element

The facade-stones at the northern end of the monument stand 1.9m apart. The western one is 0.7m high, and the eastern one is 1.2m high. These are linked to the court by a passage 3.5m long and 1–1.3m wide. The sides of the passage are each represented by three stones, with the innermost at either side serving also as part of the court

Plate 157. Roosky Upper (Dg. 108). From north showing entrance passage into northern court.



perimeter. The outermost stone at the E and the stone next to it are both 0.5m high. The third stone here, at the junction of the passage and the court, is 1.05m high. It rises 0.6m above the top of the preceding stone. The outermost stone at the W side of the passage and the stone next to it are both 0.8m high. A split in the latter stone is indicated by a pecked line on the plan. The third stone, at the junction with the court, is 1m high. It rises 0.3m above the top of the preceding stone.

The court, subrectangular in outline, is 9m long and narrows from 7m wide at its northern end to *c.* 5m in front of the gallery entrance. Eight courtstones can reliably be identified at its eastern side between the entrance passage and the entrance to the gallery, and these are hatched on the plan. Their heights from N to S are 0.5m, 1m, 0.55m, 0.6m, 0.9m (if upright), 1.3m, 0.9m and 1.2m. Two additional stones, one toward the outer end of this side of the court and the other around midway along it, though apparently firmly set, are of uncertain status and are not hatched on the plan. The northern one is 0.6m high, and the southern is 0.25m. Five clearly identifiable courtstones are present on the western side of the court between the entrance passage and the gallery entrance. Three of these are at its outer end, and the other two are at its inner end. Their heights from N to S are 1.55m, 0.7m, 0.6m, 0.9m and 1m. The field wall follows the perimeter of this side of the court. Two partly concealed stones of uncertain status protrude from the wall around midway along the court. That to the N is 0.7m high, and that to the S would stand 1.15m high if upright. Neither is hatched on the plan. An upright stone, *c.* 1.3m high, which is not firmly set, stands in front of the gap between the two innermost courtstones on this side. It is not shown on the plan.

The entrance jambs of the northern gallery are 1.3m apart. The eastern one is set longitudinally, and the western one is a small, almost square stone. The former is 0.8m high. Its top is 0.4m below that of the adjoining courtstone. The western jamb is 0.7m high. The adjoining courtstone rises 0.3m above it. Approximately 1m N of these jambs and in the inner end of the court is a prostrate slab, one end partly embedded in the ground. This measures *c.* 2m by 0.8m by 0.3m thick and may be a lintel displaced from above the jambs. Another prostrate slab lies 1m S of the western jamb. This measures 1.5m by 0.6m and is 0.35m thick. Its original function is not clear.

Three sidestones can be identified on the E side of the gallery. The outer faces of all three are concealed by the overlying field wall. One is beside the entrance jamb and supports a corbel, and the other two are 4m to the S. Their heights, from N to S, are 0.3m, 0.3m and 0.4m. The corbel resting on the northernmost one measures 1.6m by 1.1m by 0.5m thick. Eight stones are present along the western side of the gallery. Three of these are in a line beside the entrance jamb, and beyond a gap of 0.9m there are a further five. The third orthostat from the N supports a corbel measuring 0.95m by 0.9m by 0.4m thick. Approximately 3m from the entrance jamb a slight inturn of this side of the gallery wall suggests that there may have been a segmentation at this point. The heights of the first four sidestones here, from N to S, are 0.2m, 0.35m, 0.3m and 0.4m, and the remaining four are all *c.* 0.2m high.

Southern element

The southern extremity of the monument is considerably ruined, although the basic outline is preserved. Two

opposed pairs of stones at this end seem to represent an entrance passage similar to that at the N. The eastern pair is incorporated in the field wall running along the monument. All four are now somewhat loosely set in the ground but nevertheless seem to be *in situ*. The passage described by these stones is *c.* 2.3m long and 1m wide. The outer of the two stones at the E is 1.1m high, and the inner one is 0.7m high. The outer stone at the W side is 0.8m high, and the inner one is 0.5m high. A displaced stone, at least 1.3m in maximum dimension, protrudes from the eastern side of the field wall just S of the entrance.

Four courtstones can be recognised in the 8m-long gap between the inner end of the passage and the front of the southern gallery. Two lie to the E, and two to the W. These indicate a court width of *c.* 7m at mid-length. The first of the two courtstones at the W is 1m NW of the entrance passage. It is 0.8m high. The second on this side, 3.5m N of the first, is 0.3m high. The first courtstone on the E side is 4m NE of the entrance passage. It is 0.5m high. The second on this side is 4m NW of the first and protrudes from the field wall. This may also have served as an entrance jamb to the gallery. It is 0.5m high. Around midway between the last two there is what may be a fallen courtstone now partly embedded in the ground (not hatched on plan). It measures at least 0.6m. At right angles to the E side of the inner end of the entrance passage to the court are two stones, both partly incorporated in the field wall and seemingly on the perimeter of the court. The status of these is uncertain, and they are not hatched on the plan. The western one rises 0.5m above the base of the wall, and the eastern is 0.9m high.

Six stones remain of the W side of the southern gallery, and four of the northern side. These four, partly obscured by the field fence crossing the monument, support what appear to be three corbels. None of these four sidestones is more than 1m long or 0.4m high. A corbel, 1.2m by 0.7m by 0.3m thick, overlies the southernmost of the four sidestones and the adjacent end of the next. The second corbel, 1.4m by 0.75m by 0.5m thick, overlies the third sidestone from the S, and the third corbel rests on the northernmost sidestone on this side. This corbel, much obscured by the wall, measures at least 1m in maximum dimension. The tops of the six stones at the W side of the gallery barely rise above ground level. The largest is at least 1.8m long. A stone crosses part of the gallery just N of mid-length. It is at right angles to the W side of the gallery. Its flat top is flush with the ground, and it disappears from view around halfway across the gallery. It is at least 1.5m long and over 0.1m thick. The status of this stone is unclear. Approximately 1m beyond the E side of the gallery is a large upright stone (not hatched), 1.3m long, 0.5m thick and 0.7m high. Its function is unclear.

Thomas Fagan visited this monument in 1846. It seems from his account that it was then in much the same condition as now. He quoted a local claim that a prostrate stone at the 'south end' of the northern court had stood upright within local memory and that it had resembled a chair. A report dated 1981 (ASCD archive) recounts a claim that the northern court was frequently dug 'some years ago'. A stone axehead said to have been found during this activity was subsequently lost.

Fagan 1845–8, book 10, 14; Borlase 1897, 235, Raphoe North no. 5; Mahr 1937, 426, no. 19; Corcoran 1960, 144, no. 90; de Valera 1960, 106–7, DG. 14; ASCD archive; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 29, no. 42; SMR 1987, 69:35; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 69:35.

109. Roshin. OS 97:11:2 (59.0 27.3). Marked as a small rectangle but not named (1907). OD 0–100.
G 704 741. Plate 158. Fig. 76.

Unclassified

This monument stands at the end of a rocky ridge *c.* 100m from the western shore of the outer end of Killybegs Harbour. Set on a SE-facing slope in rough pasture, it commands an extensive view southward across Donegal Bay. Rising ground restricts the outlook to the N and W.

The monument is quite ruined but seems to have consisted of a chamber or gallery aligned NW–SE. The structure stands at the NW end of a grass-grown, stony mound of broadly rectangular outline measuring 9m NW–SE by 3.8m NE–SW and 0.7m high. A field fence runs along the eastern side of the mound, and the slight remnants of a fence can be identified running westward from its northern end.

The eastern side of the structure is represented by two stones. The northern one, hatched on plan, leans slightly to the W and is 1m high. That next to it at the SE, the base of which is obscured, leans markedly to the E. It is 0.85m long and 0.2m thick and would stand *c.* 1m high if upright. A toppled stone leans eastward and

Plate 158. Roshin (Dg. 109), from north-west.



rests on this. This stone, 0.8m long, 0.2m thick and *c.* 1m high if upright, may originally have stood at the W side of the structure. The southern end of this is overlain by another displaced slab measuring 1m by at least 0.6m by 0.25m thick. To the W of the last two is a partly buried prostrate slab measuring 1.3m by at least 0.5m by 0.15m thick. North of this and at the inner face of the stone shown hatched on the plan is another prostrate slab, also partly buried, measuring 1.2m by at least 0.4m by 0.15m thick.

A large displaced roofstone, 3.2m by 2.6m and 0.4m thick, rests in a sloping position across the southern half of the collapsed structure. The western side of this great slab is on the ground, and its eastern side is tilted skywards. It now rests on the southern end of the upright stone and on two of the displaced slabs.

This is clearly a ruined megalithic tomb, but the remains are insufficient to enable its classification.

Conaghan 1974, 15 ('at Drumanoo close to the seashore'); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 43, no. 114; SMR 1987, 97:34; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; RMP 1995, 97:34.

110. Roshin South. OS 48:16:5 (80.4 0.5). Not marked (1904). OD 0–100. B 725 097. Plates 159–61. Fig. 77.

Portal tomb

This monument is 200m from the seashore *c.* 5km WSW of Dunglow. It stands on rough, rocky pasture 150m E of Maghery Lough. There is an extensive outlook from the site except to the S, where the hilly ground just E of Crohy Head forms the skyline.

The tomb consists of an unroofed chamber, entry to which is at the ESE between two tall stones. Beyond these only a single orthostat remains on each side, and the chamber is closed by a roughly gabled backstone. The N side of the structure is incorporated in a field wall. Between 1.5m and 3m S of the chamber is a line of four stones lying on the ground. From the easternmost and largest of these a field wall runs to the S. This stone measures 2.2m by 1.5m and is 0.6m thick. Next to this is a largely concealed block at least 0.9m in maximum dimension. The stone beside this measures 0.75m by 0.55m by 1m thick, and the fourth measures 1.6m by at least 0.4m by 0.8m thick. There is a partly buried stone, at least 0.9m in horizontal dimension and 0.5m thick, just S of the front of the chamber. Another stone, 1.5m in front of the tomb, measures 1.6m by 0.35m and is 0.5m thick. Approximately 3m beyond the back and 4m beyond the S side of the chamber is a drop in ground level. It is not clear whether this represents the edge of a cairn or is simply a natural dip.

The two tall stones at the front of the chamber are 0.8m apart at ground level and about equal in height. The southern one leans against and is set slightly in front of the northern. It has a flat inner face and would stand 2m high if upright. The northern one is *c.* 2m high. It rises *c.* 0.5m above the sidestone beside it, which is 1.2m high. There is a gap of 1.6m between this stone and the backstone. In this gap and beside the sidestone, a slab, at least 0.8m in maximum dimension, protrudes from the wall crossing the monument. This stone does not appear to have formed part of the structure. On the S side of the chamber is a gap of 1.3m between the tall stone at the



Plate 159. Roshin South (Dg. 110), from west.



Plate 160. Roshin South (Dg. 110). Eighteenth-century sketch of tomb from north (RIA MS 3 C 33). By permission of the Royal Irish Academy © RIA.

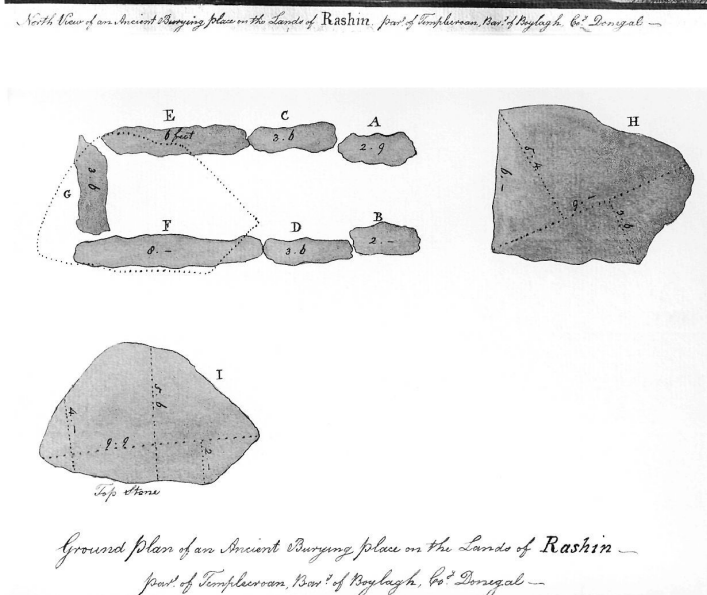


Plate 161. Roshin South (Dg. 110). Eighteenth-century plan of tomb (RIA MS 3 C 33). By permission of the Royal Irish Academy © RIA.

front and the other orthostat. The latter stone has a flat inner and sloping outer face and is 1.2m high. The backstone of the chamber is set inside the end of this and is 0.8m high.

Two watercolours, one a view of the monument from the N and the other a ground plan, preserved in the Royal Irish Academy (RIA MS 3 C 33) are reproduced above. Dated 1799, they are based on original drawings made some years earlier (see Introduction). These show the monument in a more complete state of preservation than at present. Both sides of the chamber were then intact. Since that time an orthostat has been lost from each

side, as has a roofstone shown resting in a more or less horizontal position above the inner half of the chamber. Values recorded on the chamber stones on the 18th-century plan refer to their lengths in feet and inches and are quite accurate in respect of the extant stones. These show that the missing northern orthostat was 6 feet (*c.* 1.8m) long and the missing southern stone was 3 feet 6 inches (*c.* 1.05m) long. The overall dimensions of the roofstone were 9 feet 9 inches by 5 feet 6 inches (*c.* 3m by 1.65m). Another slab, apparently displaced, shown on both drawings to the front of the entrance to the chamber measured 9 feet (*c.* 2.85m) in maximum dimension.

The remains here are those of a portal tomb. The two tall stones at the E appear to be portal-stones at the entrance to a chamber *c.* 3m long and 1.1m wide. As the southern one stands in front of the other, there is the possibility that the now missing stone on this side, which the 18th-century sketch of the monument shows to have been of similar height, served as the portal-stone. If so, an arrangement similar to that at the western chamber of the portal tomb complex at Malin More (Dg. 91), where a tall stone stands in front of one of the portal-stones, may have obtained here. It is likely that the roofstone shown covering the inner end of the chamber on the sketch would originally have supported a second, high-pitched one resting against the top of the portal-stones. The large slab then in front of the chamber may have served this function.

RIA MS 3 C 33, nos. 47 and 48; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 296, no. 3; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 35, no. 70; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 94, Donegal no. 11; SMR 1987, 48:9; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; RMP 1995, 48:9.

111. Rowantreehill. OS 107:16:4 (76.4 3.6). ‘Giant’s Grave’ (1952–4). OD 300–400. G 918 588.

Plate 162. Fig. 76.

Unclassified

This monument is 4.6km SE of Ballyshannon. It is prominently sited on the crest of a ridge above the basin of the River Erne and commands an extensive outlook in all directions.

Only two orthostats of the monument survive. One, at the S, lies E–W, and 3m to the N of its western end is another, orientated N–S. The southern stone is flat topped and 0.65m high. The northern stone, a considerable block, is uneven on top and 1m high. A modern field wall, not on the plan, runs E–W just N of the remains. In the field wall *c.* 8m NW of the northern orthostat there is a large stone, and 3m further W another, both *c.* 1m in maximum dimension. These may have been robbed from the monument.

The monument was in its present state in around 1850, according to an account in an OS Revision Name Book. Allingham (1879, 108–9), apparently on the basis of a report in *The Dublin Penny Journal* (G.H.R. 1834–5), recorded that a cinerary urn was found here. It reportedly contained ashes and several large bones.

The size and juxtaposition of the two surviving orthostats indicate that this was a megalithic tomb, although it must remain unclassified.



Plate 162. Rowantreehill (Dg. 111), from south-east.

G.H.R. 1834–5 ('...situated at the top of an eminence...'); OS Revision Name Book, sheet 107 (1847–50), 27; Allingham 1879, 108–9; Holly 1975–6, 196 (plan); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 46, no. 37; SMR 1987, 107:102; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; RMP 1995, 107:102.

112. Sand Island. OS 73:14:5 (38.4 6.3). Not marked (1907). OD 0–100. G 682 911. Plate 163.
Fig. 82.

Portal tomb (?)

This monument is not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map. The site lies *c.* 5km W of Ardara on the N side of Sand Island, which is at the inner end of Loughros Beg Bay. Sand Island is an extensive sandhill *c.* 400m by 150m on Maghera Strand just N of Laconnell townland. It is accessible on foot when the tide is out. To the S the mountains extending westward from Glengesh Hill to Slievetooley form the skyline. The view westward out to sea is restricted by sandhills at the outer end of Maghera Strand. The island provides rough grazing on its sandy surface.

In 1976, when the plan published here was made, the structure was exposed in a pit dug in the sand. The pit measured 5.5m NW–SE by 4.5m NE–SW and was *c.* 1m deep. Around this was a bank of upcast sand (indicated by pecked lines on the plan) 1–3.3m wide and 0.5m high.

Four large stones were visible in the pit. One at the NW (hatched on plan) leaned markedly to the SE against the end of an upright stone (also hatched) at right angles to its southern end. The gabled outline of the former suggested that it was likely to be a backstone. It was 1.6m long and 0.3m thick and if upright would have stood 1.7m high. The second orthostat, which leaned northward, was 1.4m high and seems to have been the sidestone of a chamber opening to the SE. Another stone, perhaps a displaced sidestone, lay prostrate 0.8m N of the last. Partly buried, it was 2.2m long and 0.4m thick. If upright, it would have stood at least 1m high. Between this and the outer end of the putative southern sidestone there was another stone, which leaned very considerably to the S and was probably displaced. It was 1.1m long and 0.35m thick and would have stood 1.3m high if upright. Two smaller stones (not on plan) lay prone in the pit. One, 0.8m by 0.5m by 0.15m thick, lay just E of the last described, and the other, 0.8m by 0.4m by 0.15m, lay just N of the backstone.

When the site was revisited in 1984 the pit had been filled and the ground levelled. Two large slabs lay prostrate on the surface. One measured 2.5m by 1.8m by 0.25m thick. Under its SW end the top of another stone could be detected just below the surface. The second prostrate slab lay 2.5m S of the other and measured 1.9m by 1.5m by 0.15m thick. Approximately 1m N of this the top of another buried stone was exposed.

The scant remains at this site in 1976 appeared to represent a single-chambered structure at least 1.8m long and *c.* 1.3m wide. The presence of two sizeable orthostats, one apparently a gabled backstone and the other an inward-leaning sidestone, suggested that the structure may be a ruined portal tomb (Ó Nualláin 1983a; 1983b), and it is tentatively classified as such.



Plate 163. Sand Island (Dg. 112). View into chamber from east.

L. McGill 1964, 63 (court cairn on Oíleán Mhacaire); P.J. McGill 1970, 6; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 35, no. 71; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 94, Donegal no. 17; SMR 1987, 73:36; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; RMP 1995, 73:36.

113. Shalwy. OS 97:5:1 (6.0 38.8). 'Muinner (Carn)' (1907). OD 100–200. G 648 753. Plates 164–6. Figs. 78 and 79

Court tomb

This monument, one of the three excavated court tombs in the same rocky coastal valley, stands on a low knoll of rock between the other two (Dg. 12 and Dg. 40).

A plan of the monument, made in 1952, has already been published (de Valera 1960). It then survived as substantial long cairn with a gallery, surmised to be of two chambers, opening from a court at its NE end. Only two orthostats of the northern arm of the court were then visible. A doubled lintel marked the entrance to the gallery. Tiers of corbelling were visible along both sides of the gallery, and a large roofstone covered its inner half. The gallery was filled with stones almost to the tops of the sidestones. Fagan's (1845–8) account of the monument, written after his visit in 1847, shows it to have been in much the same condition then as in 1952.

The monument was excavated over four seasons from 1966 to 1969, and preliminary accounts have been published (Flanagan 1967; 1968; 1969; 1970). Excavation revealed a coffin-shaped cairn with a crescent-shaped facade and straight rear end. The sides and back of the cairn proved to be of dry-wall construction. A full court of pear-shaped outline was uncovered, and it was confirmed that the gallery was two chambered. Clearance of the court involved the removal of a great mass of collapsed cairn material, to a depth of 1m, in front of the entrance to the gallery.

Finds from the court area included small flint fragments, as well as worked flakes of flint, chert and quartz. Among the classifiable artifacts were two hollow scrapers, an end scraper, two plano-convex knives, one of which was broken in three pieces, a 'multiple scraper' and a leaf-shaped arrowhead, all of flint. Clearance of the gallery revealed well-defined occupation layers of later Iron Age date in the rear chamber. From these and the upper levels of the front chamber a series of later Iron Age objects, including pottery, metalwork, a glass bead and a bone comb, were recovered. The floor level of the front chamber produced a series of Neolithic flint implements, including four end scrapers, ten hollow scrapers and an arrowhead, as well as 'one or two tiny fragments of Neolithic pottery' (Flanagan 1969, 19). The Neolithic material recovered from the rear chamber included 'a fair quantity of featureless pottery' and a number of flint implements, among which were several hollow scrapers. Various types of animal bones were found at all levels of this chamber, and a razor-clam shell was found beneath the edge of the backstone. Several fragments of a shale bracelet were found to the N of the front of the monument. Quantities of small flint flakes and fragments were recovered from all around the cairn. The preliminary accounts of the excavation make no reference to the presence or otherwise of human remains.

The plan and sections published here were made in 1990. The cairn, 37m in overall length, appears to have achieved its greatest width, 14.5m, across the front of the court, from where it narrows to c. 10m at its crescent-shaped facade and c. 7m at the rear. It reaches a maximum height of c. 2m around the inner end of the gallery.

Part of the front of the cairn had been robbed before the excavation began (Flanagan 1967, 23). Its outline is now indicated by a slight drop in ground level. The crescent-shaped facade, shown in pecked outline on the plan, is represented by a line of low stones left in place by the excavator. These are laid flat on the ground, and none exceeds 0.3m in height. A gap, 1.5m wide, in the facade marks the outer end of a passage, 5m long, that led to the court. At the N side of this and just inside the facade is a stone, 0.8m long, 0.35m thick and 0.35m high, laid flat on the ground. Its status is uncertain. Two stones opposite it, not shown on the plan, are quite loose. Between the facade and the court, a gully, up to 1.8m wide and 0.5m deep, crosses all but the northern extremity of the cairn. On excavation this was found to be filled with large slabs (Flanagan 1970, 21).

A substantial cairn mass now survives outside the inner half of both arms of the court and at either side of the gallery and extends 6–8m beyond its back. This is retained at its N and S sides by the dry-wall revetment exposed during the excavation. The stones in a line at both sides of the cairn, as shown on plan, are the lowest now exposed. They range from c. 0.3m to 1.3m long and from 0.2m to 0.9m high. A further stone, immediately W of those at the N, is now displaced. It measures 0.9m by 0.9m and is 0.6m high. As many as three layers of