

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



**Plate 164.** Shalwy (Dg. 113), from north-east.



**Plate 165.** Shalwy (Dg. 113). From north-east showing doubled lintel.

dry-walling survive at intervals along both sides, to a height of 0.9m. The western extremity of the cairn had been largely robbed, but traces of dry-walling, no longer apparent, were noted there during the excavation. A slight drop in ground level indicates the cairn perimeter in this area now.

The court is 8.5m long and attains its maximum width of 7.8m close to the front. Large orthostats define its inner half, but the stones along the outer half, which were uncovered during the excavation, are low and, except for one (hatched on plan), lie flat on the ground. A low spread of cairn remnant, 0.3m high, links the outer stone of each arm to the court entrance. Ten stones survive along the N arm of the court, and eight on the southern side. A single corbel survives on each arm. The corbels, not shown on plan, appear on the sectional drawings. The innermost courtstone at the N, its base uncovered by the excavation, is 1.45m high, falling to 0.3m at its outer end. The second, its base also exposed, is 0.75m high. This and the outer end of the first are overlain by a corbel measuring 1.4m by at least 0.6m by 0.25m thick. The third courtstone, the tallest, is 1.9m high. It rises 1.1m above the top of the second and 1.3m above the fourth courtstone, which is 0.5m high. There is a gap between this and the next, the first of four contiguously placed blocks, all now slightly loose and none of which rises more than 0.25m clear of the ground. Just 0.6m beyond the last of these are two others, also slightly loose, measuring 0.2m and 0.4m high. The innermost stone of the S arm of the court is a small well-set upright, 0.55m high. The second, which rises 0.95m above it, is 1.5m high. The third courtstone is 0.25m high. The outer end of this is overlain by what appears to be a corbel, which measures at least 1m by at least 0.6m by 0.25m thick. The fourth courtstone here is 0.95m high. The next three stones are all laid flat on the ground. None of these is more than 0.25m high. The outermost of the surviving stones of this arm of the court stands 0.55m high but is now slightly loose.

The gallery, *c.* 6m long, has been excavated to the slightly uneven surface of the ground rock here, and the bases of the orthostats along its northern side have been exposed. Entrance to the gallery is between two well-matched, more or less flat-topped, transversely set entrance jambs, 0.85m apart. The northern one is 1.5m high, and the southern is 1.4m. The lower of the two superimposed stones forming the lintel above the gallery entrance rests on these jambs. It is 3.1m long, 1.35m in greatest width and 0.65m thick and presents a rectangular profile when viewed from the court. There is a small pad-stone, 0.25m by 0.25m by 0.15m thick, between it and the top of the southern jamb and a number of smaller stones between it and the top of the northern jamb. The stone above this is 2.8m long, 1.05m in maximum width and 0.7m thick. When viewed from the front its top surface dips from a slight peak at mid-length to either end. There is a small pad-stone between it and the lower stone near their northern ends. A displaced slab found at the front of the gallery during the excavation was considered by the excavator to have served as a 'blocking-slab', i.e. a doorstone, at the gallery entrance. This was a 'very large rectangular slab' of fairly uniform thickness and had, apparently, been trimmed to size and shape. It was broken up and removed during the excavation (Flanagan 1969; 1977, 24–7).

Two transversely set jambs, 0.6m apart, divide the gallery into two chambers. The southern jamb stands slightly forward of the northern. The two are well-matched, flat-topped stones set inside the line of the gallery walls. The northern one, now largely undermined and somewhat unsteady, is 1.6m high. The southern is 1.45m high. The excavator has suggested (Flanagan 1969, 18) that a large slab found lying across the front chamber during the excavation may have rested, as a lintel, on the segmenting jambs. It was removed from the gallery during the excavation and now lies near the southern arm of the court. It measures 2.2m by 0.95m and is 0.3m thick. Another displaced slab (not on plan), 0.8m in maximum dimension, lies under its outer end.

The front chamber is *c.* 3m long and narrows from 3.4m wide at the front to 2.8m at the back. The rear chamber is *c.* 2.8m long and narrows from 2.6m at its outer end to 2m at the back. Both sides of the gallery are formed by three large orthostats, the middle one at each side overlapping both chambers; this is the same arrangement as at Croaghbeg (Dg. 40), which is closeby. The first at the N side of the gallery, the outer end of which is concealed, overlaps the adjacent entrance jamb. It is 1.65m in maximum height. The second is 1.45m high, and the third orthostat at this side is 1.65m in maximum height.

The outermost of the three orthostats on the S side of the gallery overlaps the entrance jamb and rises 0.15m above it. It is 1.65m high. The second, stepped-in slightly from the last, is 1.9m high. The third orthostat on this side is 1.6m high. The backstone of the gallery is set beyond the end of the last but is partly overlapped by the innermost orthostat on the N side. Except for a slight dip in the middle, it is of more or less uniform height, 1.8m, from end to end. The top of this stone is outwardly bevelled.

Heavy slabs have been used as corbels along the sides and back of the gallery, and the excavator has suggested that some large slabs found when excavating the front chamber may have been displaced corbels (Flanagan 1969, 18). Three corbels rest on the front orthostat on the N side of the gallery. The outermost measures 0.55m by 0.55m and is 0.25m thick. Only the inner end of this corbel appears on the relevant sectional drawing, as it is largely concealed by the lintels above the entrance jambs. The outer ends of the next two corbels



**Plate 166.** Shalwy (Dg. 113). View into inner chamber from east.

are embedded in the cairn. They measure 0.95m by at least 0.5m by 0.3m thick, and 0.7m by at least 0.5m by 0.25m thick. A large block of stone, serving to raise the height of the gallery side, rests directly on the top of the second orthostat and the outer end of the third. Its inner face is flush with that of the orthostats, and its top declines toward the outside, presenting a suitable seat for corbels. It measures 2m along the main axis of the gallery and is 0.5m wide and 0.6m high. A corbel, 1m by at least 0.6m and 0.3m thick, overlies the inner end of this stone and part of the third orthostat. Next to the last corbel is another. This rests wholly on the innermost orthostat and measures 1.2m by at least 0.6m by 0.25m thick.

The outermost orthostat on the S side of the gallery supports a single corbel. This measures 0.75m by at least 0.6m by 0.2m thick. It is largely obscured on the relevant sectional drawing. Approximately 2m to the W a corbel overlies the inner end of the middle one of the three orthostats on this side. This measures 0.75m by at least 0.6m by 0.15m thick. The innermost orthostat on this side is overlain by two blocks, their faces flush with its inner face. These increase the effective height of the gallery side. The eastern one, now tilted inward slightly, measures 1.1m by 0.35m by 0.4m high, and the other measures 1.2m by 0.5m by 0.45m high. There are two pad-stones, one 0.2m and the other 0.25m across, between this and the top of the sidestone. The two blocks are in turn overlain by a corbel that rests on the greater part of the outer one and on the adjoining end of the inner. This corbel measures 1.4m by at least 0.7m and is 0.15m thick.

The backstone of the gallery is overlain by a corbel measuring 1.8m by at least 1m by 0.25m thick. Above this are two slabs, one overlying the other and both tilted downward into the gallery. These are locked in this position by the weight of the great roofstone that covers the inner chamber. The lower one measures 1.4m by 1m by 0.1m thick, and the upper measures 1m by 0.7m by 0.2m thick. Two small stones, each *c.* 0.3m across and 0.1–0.15m thick (not on the sectional drawings) are wedged between the upper slab and the roofstone. The roofstone measures 3.35m in greatest length and 2.5m in maximum width and is 0.7m thick. At the N the roofstone rests on the second corbel from the back of that side of the chamber, and at the S it rests on the corbel above the two horizontally laid stones on the innermost orthostat. The front of the roofstone is sufficiently far forward to have rested on the segmenting lintel when the latter was in place. The fall or removal of this lintel may have caused the front of the roofstone to dip, which may account for the inwardly tilted corbels under the end of the roofstone. These now look precarious. One of two rolled-steel joists laid across the rear chamber under the roofstone as a safety measure during the excavation (Flanagan 1969, 19) remains in place.

Fagan 1845–8, book 9, 20–22 (sketch of gallery entrance); OS Revision Name Book, sheet 97 (1847–9), 3; de Valera 1960, 109, DG. 25 (plan); Flanagan 1967; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 335; Flanagan 1968; Flanagan 1969; Flanagan 1970; Flanagan 1977, 24–7 (plate, fig.); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 29, no. 43; Herity 1987, 243; SMR 1987, 97:18; Killanin and Duignan 1989, 222; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 97:18.

**114. Sharagore/Tonduff.** OS 18:8:5 (79.3 35.7). ‘Laghty’ (1905). OD 400–500. C 308 392. Plates 167 and 168. Fig. 72.

#### *Wedge tomb*

The monument is on the summit of a hill, close to Dunree Head, on the W side of the Inishowen peninsula, and overlooks Lough Swilly. The site commands an extensive outlook, except to the E, where Aghaweel Hill, 1km away, forms the skyline. There is rough pasture in the environs of the site, with heather-grown boggy ground to the S and E.

The structure, somewhat ruined, consists of an unroofed gallery at least 4m long aligned SW–NE and flanked at either side by the remains of outer-walling. The outer-walling, 1m beyond the gallery sides at the W, converges on them toward the E, where the gap is *c.* 0.6m. The gallery, 1.6m wide at the open SW end, narrows to 1m at the inner end, which is closed by a low backstone. There is also a decrease in gallery height in the same direction. The outer-walling also decreases in height to the NE. A facade-stone spans the greater part of the space between the gallery side and the outer-walling at the S, and a set stone outside the outer-walling at the N may represent an extension of the facade. The structure stands in a low wedge-shaped mound, 11.5m long, which narrows from 11.5m wide near its SW end to *c.* 3m at the NE end. The mound is grass grown and not more than 0.5m high. A fence has been built along the S side of the gallery, and another runs up to the outer wall at the same side. The inner end of the space between the gallery side and the outer-walling at the N is covered by a slab measuring

2.3m by 1.3m by 0.25m thick. This is supported by two small set stones, each 0.4m high, standing at the outer face of the gallery wall and by five small pad-stones resting on top of an outer-wall stone. Roofing of the space between the gallery side and the outer-walling is not known elsewhere in Ireland, and therefore it must be doubted that this is an original feature.

Two orthostats survive at either side of the gallery. The outer stone at the N is 1.1m high, and that at the S is 1m high. The two inner sidestones are more substantial slabs and decrease in height from *c.* 0.7m at their outer ends to 0.4m at the inner. The flat-topped backstone is set between the inner ends of the two large sidestones and is of similar height.

Two outer-wall stones survive beyond the S side of the gallery. That to the W is broken. Its butt is in place and is 1.1m long, 0.35m thick and 0.5m high. The detached upper portion lies against the adjacent facade-stone. When intact the stone was 1.55m high. The second outer-wall stone is 1.3m E of the first. The outer end of this stone is 0.5m high, from where it slopes to ground level at the inner end.

There are three outer-wall stones to the N of the gallery. That at the W is 1.4m high. The second stone is 0.6m lower than the first. The third orthostat here is 0.3m lower than the second. Approximately 0.8m beyond this is a partly buried stone at least 0.4m long, 0.15m thick and 0.2m high. Its status is uncertain.

The facade-stone at the S is incorporated in the fence crossing the monument. It is 0.3m high. The stone that appears to represent an extension of the facade to the N of the outer wall is 0.7m high. The adjoining outer-wall stone rises 0.75m above it.

A brief account in an OS Memoir (1834), accompanied by a rudimentary plan and sketch of the monument, indicates that a roofstone then covered the inner end of the gallery. It appears that this stone was no longer in

**Plate 167.** Sharagore/Tonduff (Dg. 114),  
from south-west.



**Plate 168.** Sharagore/Tonduff (Dg. 114),  
from north-east.



place ten years later (OS Revision Name Book, 1847–50). The Name Book also records that ‘a vast quantity of small loose stones’ then lay scattered around the structure and recounts a local claim that ‘a perfect human skeleton’, discovered a few feet below the surface when clearing away stones from the site, was left where it was found and covered over.

OS Memoirs, Desertegny parish (1834), 8 (rudimentary plan and sketch); OS Revision Name Book, sheet 18 (1847–50), 11–12; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 43, no. 115; SMR 1987, 18:11; Ó Nualláin 1989, 136; Colhoun 1995, 55–6; RMP 1995, 18:11.

**115. Straid or Glebe.** OS 80:16:2 (83.5 9.5). ‘Cromlech & Penitential Station’ (1904–5). OD 0–100. G 534 849. Plate 169. Fig. 76.

*Unclassified*

The monument, just W of Glencolumbkille church and graveyard, stands on a slight ridge in low-lying, level pasture 600m E of the inner end of Glen Bay and c. 150m N of the Murlin River. The court tomb at Farranmacbride (Dg. 56) is visible 0.5km to the N.

The monument is considerably ruined. Three structural stones, two to the N and one to the S, can reliably be identified. These stand at opposite ends of a long, grass-grown mound of irregular outline measuring 12m NE–SW by 8m NW–SE by 1.75m high. The status of some other set stones is less certain, and these, along with prostrate stones, are not hatched on the plan. A stone-built field wall runs N–S across the top of the mound.

The monument has long been appropriated by Christian ritual as one of the stations in the *turas*, or pattern, associated with St Colmcille (Price 1941, 73). A facing of dry-wall construction, 1.5m long, set into the western side of the mound near its northern end may be the remains of a ‘temporary altar where mass is said to have been celebrated in modern times...[and where] some portion of the station ceremonies is usually observed’ (Fagan 1845–8). Fagan also claimed that there were further ‘sepulchral’ remains c. 20 yards (c. 18m) W of the surviving structure and that here too a ‘temporary altar’ had been constructed. Of these features there is now no trace.

The southern orthostat at the site is 2m in from the SW end of the mound. Aligned roughly NW–SE, it is gabled in outline and 0.9m high. The other two structural stones stand at an angle to each other at the eastern edge of the N end of the mound. The southern one lies roughly E–W and is 0.5m high. The northern stone lies roughly N–S and is 0.8m high.

There are three stones close to the western edge of the mound. The southernmost, a set stone, is 0.5m NW of the southern orthostat. It measures 1.1m by 0.6m by 0.7m in exposed height at its western face. The second, 0.4m to the N, lies against the edge of the mound and measures 0.95m by 0.4m by 0.8m high. The third, 2.5m N of the second, is a set stone at right angles to the line of the other two and measures 1.05m by 0.55m by 1.2m high at its western face. A displaced slab measuring 2.15m by 1.4m lies prostrate at the N end of the mound.



**Plate 169.** Straid or Glebe (Dg. 115), from south-south-west.

Approximately 1.5m to the S is another displaced slab, 1.6m by 1.35m by 0.4m thick. This, overlain by the crossing field wall, rests on the pointed top of a stone, at least 0.5m in maximum dimension, that protrudes 0.4m above the surface of the mound. Approximately 1m E of the last a set stone, 0.5m by 0.3m, rises 0.25m above the mound surface. Approximately 1.5m S of this a slab, 1.2m in maximum dimension, is visible at the E face of the crossing-wall, and 2.5m to the S a large displaced block of stone, 0.9m in maximum dimension, has been incorporated in the wall.

A possible interpretation of the remains is that the gabled orthostat at the S is the backstone and the two orthostats to the N are a sidestone and a segmenting jamb of a NE-facing court tomb gallery *c.* 8.5m or more in length. Confirmation of this interpretation would require further investigation, and pending this the monument must remain unclassified.

Fagan 1845–8, book 21, 7–8; OS 1:2,500 Name Book, sheet 80 (1904–5), 17; Price 1941, 73; de Valera 1960, 107–8, DG. 18; Killanin and Duignan 1962, 289; E.E. Evans 1966, 87; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 292; Herity 1971, 19, no. 1; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 46, no. 138; SMR 1987, 80:13; Killanin and Duignan 1989, 192; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; Herity 1990, 12, no. 2; RMP 1995, 80:13.

**116. Straleel North.** OS 90:2:6 (42.4 48.6). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1904–5). OD 400–500. G 588 827. Plate 170. Fig. 83.

#### *Portal tomb*

This monument stands on rough bogland amid outcrops of rock on a level patch of ground just above the head of the valley of the Sruhanstraleel River. The site commands an extensive outlook south-eastward toward the sea at Teelin Bay.

The monument is quite ruined. It consists of a small E-facing chamber *c.* 2m long and 0.6m to *c.* 0.8m wide. A grass-grown mound encircling the structure measures 9.5m N–S by 9m E–W by 0.3m high. Its outline is difficult to trace at the E, where it merges with rock outcrop.

Three orthostats of the chamber remain. Two of these, a portal-stone to the E and a sidestone beside it, form the N side of the chamber. The portal-stone has split into two separate uprights, and it is likely that a piece has been broken from its top. The sidestone leans inward. The third orthostat, opposite the sidestone, forms the S side of the chamber. A subsidiary roofstone rests on the two sidestones. The main roofstone, a large slab, is displaced and lies tilted over the front of the chamber, its front end on the ground and its inner end supported on the subsidiary roofstone and the portal-stone.

The portal stone is 0.8m long, was 0.4m thick when intact, and is 1m high at its inner face. The sidestone beside it leans inward. It is 0.9m long and 0.2m thick and would stand at least 0.6m high if upright. The southern sidestone is 0.9m high. The subsidiary roofstone, now in a sloping position because of the inward lean of the



**Plate 170.** Straleel North (Dg. 116), from west.

northern sidestone, measures 1.4m by 1.35m and is 0.3m thick. The main roofstone measures 2.5m in overall length, narrows from 2.1m wide near its W end to 1.3m near the E end, and is 0.3m thick.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1847, and it appears from his account that it was then in its present state.

Fagan 1845–8, book 20, 30–31; Killanin and Duignan 1962, 290 ('Straleela' may refer); Ó Nualláin 1968a, 299, no. 3; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 35, no. 72; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 95, Donegal no. 23; SMR 1987, 90:1; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; RMP 1995, 90:1.

**117. Stroove.** OS 13:15:2 (56.1 11.0). 'Standing Stones' (1900). OD 300–400. C 673 431. Plate 171. Fig. 84.

*Unclassified*

This monument is named 'Stones' on the original OS six-inch map (1833) and 'Standing Stones' on the edition of 1847–8. It stands on a terrace of arable land on a relatively steep SE-facing slope 1.3km SW of Inishowen Head. The site commands an extensive view northward and eastward out to sea and south-eastward across Lough Foyle.

The visible remains comprise two tall upright stones, standing roughly in line and orientated ENE–WSW. The stones are 0.3m apart and equal in height. The western one is 1.55m high, and the eastern is 1.5m high. Closeby to the W a roadside wall runs N–S and to the N of the site turns eastward to form the entranceway to a modern dwelling-house.

According to an entry in an OS Revision Name Book (1847–8), these stones formed part of a 'druidical sepulchre' known as 'Dermot and Grania's Bed', and an accompanying sketch of what appears to be a megalithic gallery seems to confirm this. A copy of this sketch is reproduced below. The caption reads: 'Two stones forming portion of a druidical sepulchre generally termed Dermot and Grania's bed but in this case "The Standing Stones" is the only name it is known by—from the sketch below it can be seen what the thing has been'.

The orientation of the gallery is not indicated on the sketch but can be gauged from the position of the two surviving stones. It lay open to the ENE, its northern and southern sides apparently parallel and of equal length, with a backstone, rounded in profile, at the WSW. Two stones formed the S side of the structure, and four the N side. The outer two stones at the N side are the two described above. Comparison of the outline of these stones with their depiction on the OS sketch indicates that the top of the eastern one has been damaged in the intervening period. It is also clear from the sketch that the extant stones were considerably taller than the other structural stones. The sketch lacks a scale, but it is clear that together the surviving stones represented half the length of the gallery, which can thus be calculated to have been *c.* 5m. Only the two stones now visible were apparent by 1900, according to an OS 1:2,500 Name Book of that year. Colhoun (1995) noted some loose stones



**Plate 171.** Stroove (Dg. 117), from south-south-east.



at the site in 1943.

The feature shown on the OS sketch may be all or part of an ENE-facing gallery, perhaps of a court tomb. It cannot, however, be reliably classified on the available evidence.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 13 (1847–8), 40 (sketch); OS 1:2,500 Name Book, sheet 13 (1900), 30; Lacy 1983, 88, no. 489; SMR 1987, 13:7; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; Colhoun 1995, 52; RMP 1995, 13:7.

**118. Tawlaght.** OS 101:16:1 (76.6 9.1). 'Ancient Grave' (1906). OD 600–700. H 113 723. Plates 172 and 173. Fig. 80.

#### *Court tomb*

The monument lies 2.3km E of Lough Derg. It stands near the base of a S-facing slope in wettish land amid hilly terrain overlooked from the E by Crockkinnagoe, the summit (1194 feet (c. 364m) OD) of which is 1.2km to the E. The outlook from the site is restricted except to the SE, where there is a view along the catchment area of the River Termon to Lower Lough Erne, c. 7km distant.

The monument, a gallery preceded at the E by a largely concealed court, stands in a large, roughly oval cairn. Peat, c. 0.1–0.15m thick, covers much of the cairn, the southern side of which is overgrown by heather and furze. The cairn surface is disturbed in the area immediately around the gallery, where its stony character is evident. The NE sector has been partially robbed, and the material has been used to build two field fences, one alongside the cairn and another running south-eastward from the front of the gallery. The cairn is 23.5m long (E–W) and 13m wide. It survives to the height of the gallery orthostats, c. 1.5m, and obscures their outer faces.

The tops of three stones of the N arm of the court can be identified. The tops of the outer two are flush with the surface of the cairn. The innermost one, a pointed stone, rises 0.4m above the cairn surface. Almost directly opposite this and 0.7m SE of the front of the gallery a set stone rises 0.45m above the cairn surface. It may be a courtstone, but as this is uncertain it is not hatched on the plan. Lying in the court area, 2.5m from the front of the gallery, is a displaced slab, 1.6m by 0.6m by 0.35m thick, and 1m beyond this, on the field fence, is another, measuring 1.45m by 0.6m by 0.3m thick.

The gallery is 6m long. Its outer part is c. 2.2m wide, and it narrows to c. 1.5m at around mid-length and beyond this widens to 1.8m before narrowing slightly toward the back. The evident narrowing of the gallery at around mid-length seems to indicate a division into at least two chambers. Apart from a lintel above the entrance, it lacks roofstones, although corbelling survives along both sides. In 1952 the gallery was filled to around half-height with displaced stones and collapsed cairn material. In 1981 the front one-third of the gallery was cleared, exposing a doorstone at the gallery entrance. It is understood that this work was undertaken as part of a security operation. A short time later a large flint knife was recovered from spoil cleared from the gallery (C. Cotter, pers. comm.). This doorstone had already been exposed in the mid-19th century (see below).

Two transversely set entrance jambs, 0.6m apart, flank the doorstone, which is around half their height. The northern jamb is 1.6m in exposed height, c. 0.2m taller than the southern jamb. The doorstone is 0.8m in exposed height. The northern jamb rises 0.8m, and the southern one rises 0.6m, above the top of the doorstone. The lintel above the jambs is a flattish slab with rounded ends. It measures 2.15m by 1.2m by 0.6m in maximum thickness. There is a single pad-stone, 0.25m in maximum dimension, interposed between the top of the northern jamb and the lintel. There are three such stones, the largest 0.4m in maximum dimension, between the top of the southern jamb and the lintel.

Five orthostats remain on the S side of the gallery, and four are visible along the N side. A backstone is set just beyond the gallery walls. The first orthostat on the S side, the top of which is obscured by a layer of peat, is c. 1.5m in exposed height and appears to be around the same height as the entrance jamb. It rises 0.3m above the top of the second orthostat. This stone is set inside the line of the last, a position in which it could have acted as a jamb. The inner end of this orthostat is concealed. It is 0.85m in exposed height. The third orthostat marks the narrowest part of the gallery. It rises 0.2m above the level of the fill in the gallery and c. 0.1m above the top of the second orthostat. This too could have functioned as a jamb. The fourth orthostat on this side is the same height as the third. It rises c. 0.4m above the fill in the gallery. The fifth orthostat, the same height as the third and fourth, also rises 0.4m above the fill.



**Plate 172.** Tawlaght (Dg. 118), from west. Horizontal ranging-pole on backstone.

The top of the first orthostat on the N side of the gallery, like its counterpart on the S side, is hidden by peat and sod-grown cairn material. It is 0.9m in exposed height. The second orthostat is set askew to the end of the last so as to narrow the chamber, and its inner end is concealed by fill. This is also 0.9m in exposed height. Beyond this stone and inside the line of the gallery the uppermost 0.1m of a flat-topped stone rises clear of the fill. It is the same height as the two orthostats. The status of this stone (not hatched on plan) is not clear. Immediately W of it a displaced slab rising from the fill lies across the gallery. This measures 1.1m by at least 0.6m and is at least 0.1m thick. North of this the faces of two separate stones are exposed at the side of the gallery. Both are around the same height as the orthostats on this side, but it is unclear whether they are structural stones, and they are not hatched on the plan. Beyond these are two sidestones. These match the two on the S side in that they are disposed so as to widen the gallery before narrowing it again toward the backstone. These are of about equal height. Both rise 0.55m above the fill in the gallery.

The backstone is 0.5m in exposed height. It rises 0.3m above the top of the adjacent sidestone at the S and 0.2m above that to the N. It is of uniform height along its length, and its top is bevelled inwardly. Two large stones lie prostrate in the gallery. That toward the front measures 1.35m by 0.8m by 0.25m thick, and the other, partly buried at the back of the gallery, measures 1.85m by at least 0.4m by 0.25m thick.

There are two tiers of corbels along the inner two-thirds of the S side of the gallery. Four corbels remain of the lower tier, and one survives of the upper. The outermost of the four lower corbels measures 0.9m by 0.8m and is 0.25m thick. This rests on cairn stones behind the second orthostat. The second corbel measures 0.95m by 0.8m by 0.3m thick and rests on cairn stones behind the third orthostat. The third corbel overlies the fourth orthostat on this side and measures 1.05m by 0.8m by 0.25m thick. There is a small pad-stone, 0.15m across, between the two. The fourth corbel, 0.95m by 0.9m by 0.35m thick, rests on the outer half of the innermost orthostat. The single corbel of the upper tier overlies the junction of the third and fourth corbels of the lower tier and measures 1.2m by 1.1m by 0.25m thick.

Corbelling survives at both ends of the N side of the gallery. At the front is a corbel that leans toward but does not touch the end of the lintel. This is supported on three packing-stones, the largest 0.6m in maximum dimension, jammed against the outer face of the entrance jamb. The corbel measures 0.75m by 1.2m by 0.3m thick. At the other end of this side of the gallery there are three corbels, two of a lower tier and a lone corbel of an upper tier. The outer one of the lower two overlies the junction of the two orthostats at this end of the gallery and measures 0.95m by 0.7m by 0.25m thick. The inner one, 1m by 0.9m and up to 0.3m thick, rests against the innermost orthostat here and on small packing-stones beside it. The lone corbel of the upper tier leans against the inner one of the lower tier and measures 1m by 0.9m by 0.3m thick.

Beyond the N side of the gallery there are five slabs rising at an angle from the cairn surface. All appear to be displaced corbels. Four lean away from the gallery, and one, the westernmost, leans toward it. This measures 0.7m by 0.6m by 0.25m thick and is 0.5m N of the inner end of the gallery. Less than 1m to the E are two more, N (0.8m by 0.7m by 0.2m thick) and S (0.7m by 0.5m by 0.15m thick) of each other and 0.5m apart. East of these are two others also roughly N and S of each other and 0.5m apart, measuring 1.35m by 1m by 0.35m thick



**Plate 173.** Tawlaght (Dg. 118).  
Entrance to gallery viewed from  
west.

and 0.95m by 1.2m by 0.3m thick.

Thomas Fagan (1845–8) visited this monument in 1847 and recorded that it had been covered by bog and heather until its accidental discovery around 70 years before, after which it was defaced. An OS Revision Name Book (1846–9) records the later date of 1820 as the year of its discovery. Fagan, in his rather generalised account, describes it as consisting of three ‘apartments’ lying E–W, the westernmost one 9 feet (*c.* 2.75m) long and 7 feet (*c.* 2.15m) wide, the next 12 feet (*c.* 3.65m) long and 7 feet (*c.* 2.15m) wide, both in a fair state of preservation, and the easternmost one, ‘now disfigured’, *c.* 21 feet (*c.* 6.4m) long and *c.* 4 feet (*c.* 1.2m) wide. His report contains a sketch showing a lintel over two upright stones, clearly jambs. This may represent the existing lintelled entrance to the gallery.

The original form of the gallery is unclear. A division into two chambers seems likely, but a three-chambered design is possible.

Fagan 1845–8, book 18, 39–42; OS Revision Name Book, sheet 101 (1846–9), 3; Anon. 1951, 346 (‘a cairn and megalithic tomb at the foot of Kinnago in the Tamlacht townland’); de Valera 1960, 110, DG. 29 (plan); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 396; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 399; Ó Gallachair 1975, 303; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 29, no. 44; SMR 1987, 101:7; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 101:7.

**119. Tawlaght.** OS 101:16:4 (72.0 1.8). Not marked (1904). OD 400–500. H 108 715. Plate 174. Fig. 67.

#### *Wedge tomb*

This tomb, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, is 2km SE of Lough Derg and *c.* 900m SSW of the court tomb (Dg. 118) in the same townland. It stands on sloping boggy ground and commands extensive views to the N and S. Crockkinnagoe Hill (1194 feet (*c.* 364m) OD) dominates the outlook to the E, and the view westward is restricted by a series of low hills. The usual W–E convention is not followed in this description.

The monument consists of part of a roofed gallery, 2.3m long, orientated SSW–NNE. It narrows from 0.95m wide at the S to 0.75m at the N. Approximately 1m beyond the S end of the gallery a stone stands at right angles to its western side. This seems to be a facade-stone. The structure stands in a low, grass-grown, oval mound measuring 8.5m by 6.4m and not more than 0.3m high.

Each side of the gallery is represented by two orthostats. The southern stone at the E side is 0.4m high and rises 0.15m over the adjoining stone. The southern stone at the W side is 0.4m high, and that next to it is 0.45m high. The roofstone rests on the sidestones. It measures 1.8m by 1.7m wide and is up to 0.4m thick. The facade-stone, which leans southward, would stand at least 0.6m high if upright.

Approximately 12m E of the tomb an ill-defined, NE–SW-aligned, rectangular heap of stones, *c.* 10m long and 2m wide, rises *c.* 0.5m clear of the boggy surface. Low upright stones form a facing along much of its perimeter. This is clearly an ancient feature. Approximately 5m to the E a gapped line of set stones seems to form



**Plate 174.** Tawlaght (Dg. 119), from south.

part of an ancient field wall.

Anon. 1951, 346 ('Half a mile away is an interesting dolmen' seems to refer); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 396; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 399; SMR 1987, 101:9; Ó Nualláin 1989, 137; RMP 1995, 101:9.

**120. Templemoyle.** OS 4:16:2 (78.0 14.1). 'Cromlech' (1903). OD 100–200. C 501 498. Plate 175. Fig. 82.

*Portal tomb*

The monument, c. 3km W of Culdaff, is prominently sited toward the western end of a boggy ridge broken by rock outcrops. To the S and W is a fall to lower ground mainly devoted to pasture. The sea inlet of Trawbreaga Bay, 4km distant, is visible to the W.

The tomb consists of a small SE-facing chamber, the front of which has collapsed. The chamber was at least 1.8m long and is 1m wide at the rear. A backstone at the NW and two opposed sidestones are in place. A displaced roofstone, its front end resting on the ground, is supported on the outer end of the southern sidestone and on a small stone (not on plan) on top of the northern sidestone. A prostrate stone in front of the southern sidestone appears to be a displaced portal-stone. It measures 2m by 0.65m by 0.2m thick. This seems to be the stone referred to in an OS Revision Name Book (1848) as 'an upright stone 4 feet [c. 1.2m] high which appears to have originally supported the covering stone but having leaned a little toward the south by some unknown cause leaves one end of the covering stone resting on the ground'. Some loose stones (not on plan) lie in the chamber.



**Plate 175.** Templemoyle (Dg. 120), from north-west.

A slightly raised grassy patch, *c.* 5m across, alongside the southern sidestone may be the remains of an enclosing mound.

The backstone, set between the ends of the sidestones, leans inward slightly and is gabled in profile. It is 0.6m high, *c.* 0.3m lower than the sidestones, both of which lean in against it. The southern sidestone is 0.9m high. The northern one is 1.05m in sloping height. The roofstone is 2.3m long, narrows from 2m wide at the front to 1.3m near the back, and decreases in thickness from 0.35m to 0.1m in the same direction. According to the OS Revision Name Book (1848), the E end of the chamber, now open, was then closed by a slab (dimensions not recorded). This may have been a doorstone or sillstone.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 4 (1848), 44; Colhoun 1949, 116; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 295, no. 3; Bonner 1972, 16; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 36, no. 73; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 93, Donegal no. 1; SMR 1987, 4:35; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; Colhoun 1995, 7–8, plate 2 (a); RMP 1995, 4:35.

**121. Tirlaydan.** OS 28:2:1 (30.0 57.0). ‘Dermot and Grania’s Bed’ (1905). OD 300–400. C 256 350. Plate 176. Fig. 75.

*Court tomb*

The monument stands on generally level, wet, boggy pasture close to the craggy lower slopes of Knockalla Mountain, which overlooks the site from the W. To the E is a view across low-lying land to Lough Swilly, 2km distant.

The monument, greatly ruined, consists of the remains of a gallery, *c.* 6.5m long, preceded at the N by the remains of the W arm of a court. The structure stands in a largely grass-grown and somewhat ill-defined stony mound, not more than 0.5m high, measuring in overall extent 15m N–S by almost 14m E–W. A fence runs into the NW corner of the mound.

Two probable courtstones remain. The eastern one is set transversely to the line of the gallery and seems to have also served as an entrance jamb. It is 0.8m high. It may originally have been taller, as the top seems broken. Two low stones lie E and W of each other immediately beside it at the S but cannot be relied on as original features. The eastern one measures 0.4m by 0.2m by 0.4m high, and the western one is 0.8m by 0.35m by 0.25m high. The other likely courtstone stands 0.8m to the W of the first. It leans northward and is 1.4m high.

Approximately 2m S of the entrance jamb two orthostats of the W side of the gallery survive. The southern one leans inward and is 0.8m high. Its sloping outer face is well suited to bear corbels. The second stone here is flat-topped and 1.4m high. Opposite this is the only surviving stone of the E side of the gallery. It is 1m high. The top seems broken, so it may originally have been taller. The southern end of this stone and the stone opposite are 1.8m apart, but they converge on each other toward the N, where they are 1.2m apart. These stones may have served as segmenting jambs. If so, this would suggest that the gallery consisted of at least two chambers. A



**Plate 176.** Tirlaydan (Dg. 121), from west.

displaced slab, 1.5m by 0.6m, lies 1.5m to the E of the presumed entrance jamb.

It is clear from an account of the monument in an OS Revision Name Book (1849–50) that it was then in its present condition.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 28 (1849–50), 4; Kinahan 1889, 279 (incorrectly assigned to Carrowreagh townland); Borlase 1897, 231, Kilmacrenan no. 7 (incorrectly assigned to Carrowreagh townland); Somerville 1909, 195–8, with plan (under ‘Glenvar’); de Valera 1960, 106, DG. 10 (plan); Killanin and Duignan 1962, 408 (incorrectly assigned to Carrowveagh, *recte* Carrowreagh, townland); Killanin and Duignan 1967, 412 (incorrectly assigned to Carrowreagh townland); Ó Nualláin 1983a, 29, no. 45; SMR 1987, 28:1; Ó Nualláin 1989, 117; RMP 1995, 28:1.

**122. Tonbane Glebe.** OS 8:10:6 (40.4 21.5). Not marked (1905). OD 0–100. C 169 440. Plate 177.  
Fig. 84.

*Unclassified*

This monument, not marked on any edition of the OS six-inch map, first came to notice in 1994. It is 700m SSE of Tramore Bay and 700m E of Ballyhoorisky, at the N end of the Fanad peninsula. It stands on a slight ridge immediately W of a long shallow valley. The area provides fair pasture on uneven ground broken by outcropping rock and scattered erratics. There is a good outlook from the site, with the sea visible to the N.

An unroofed chamber, open to the NW, survives here. It is *c.* 4m long and 1.5–1.7m wide. The structure is incorporated in a modern stone field wall, much of which is overgrown by bushes. This wall joins the E side of the front and the W side of the back of the chamber. There is no reliable trace of cairn at the site. A number of displaced slabs in the chamber, not shown on the plan, may have formed part of the structure. There is some evidence that there was a second chamber behind the extant one.

Two tall longitudinally set stones, 0.75m apart, mark the entrance to the chamber, immediately in front of which is a natural dip in ground level. Each entrance stone is partly overlapped by a large sidestone. Behind the large eastern sidestone is a much smaller one. A slightly gable-topped stone stands at the back of the chamber and crosses approximately half its width. Behind this the top of a largely buried stone seems to continue the line of the W side of the structure. This stone, 0.2m thick and at least 1.75m long, is exposed to a maximum height of 0.15m at its southern end, and its opposite end is buried. Further investigation would be required to determine its status. Opposite it is another largely buried slab, almost certainly prostrate, *c.* 2.3m by 0.85m by 0.25m thick.

The western entrance stone is 1.5m high. The top of this stone dips toward the back of the chamber. The eastern stone is 1.4m high. The top of this stone also dips toward the back of the chamber. The large sidestone at the E, though free standing, leans inward slightly. It measures 1.2m in maximum height. It reaches this height at mid-length, from where it falls gradually in both directions to 0.3m at the N and to present ground level at the



**Plate 177.** Tonbane Glebe (Dg. 122), from north-west.

S. A gap, 0.4m wide, between the front of this sidestone and the adjacent entrance stone is largely filled by a stone set on end. This stone is 1.05m high. The smaller sidestone on this side is 0.5m high. The sidestone at the W side of the chamber is 1.3m high measured at its outer face, where its base is partly exposed. The upper part of the sidestone overlaps the entrance stone by *c.* 0.3m but does not touch it. The transversely set stone at the back of the chamber now leans to the E. This stone appears to be more akin to a segmenting jamb than a backstone. It is 0.8m in leaning height at its inner face. A hole, 0.5m deep, has been dug at the outer face of this stone. Two stones (not on plan) lying in the hole, one wedged against the base of the set stone, appear to be of recent origin.

Two displaced slabs (not on plan) protrude from grass-grown fill in the chamber, the outline of which is indicated by a pecked line on the sectional drawing. One of these leans against the inner end of the western sidestone. It measures *c.* 1.2m by 0.8m by 0.2m thick. The other is beside the eastern entrance stone; it extends into the chamber and, like the other, leans westward. It measures 1.9m by 1m by 0.2m thick. Beside this slab and in front of the first one are at least three smaller slabs and other lesser stones.

The monument cannot reliably be classified, but the design suggests some affinity with both court tombs and portal tombs. The two tall longitudinally set entrance stones, each partly overlapped by a large sidestone, are characteristic of the portal tomb, although such an arrangement can occur in court tombs. The indications of further gallery structure, represented by what may be a segmenting jamb and beyond it a possible sidestone, if verified would point to it being the remains of a court tomb.

RMP 1995, 8:23.

**123. Toome.** OS 65:7:1 (50.8 42.4). 'Dermot and Grania's Bed' (1907). OD 100–200. B 791 013.

Plates 178–80. Fig. 81.

#### *Portal tomb*

This monument lies *c.* 7.5km to the NW of Glenties. It is on a low E–W-aligned ridge 1.8km N of the estuary of the Gweebarra River and is 250m W of Toome Lough. Between 1m and 3m to the S and immediately beyond the wall shown on the plan there is a sharp drop of *c.* 1m in ground level. Just N of the site is a narrow valley, beyond which, *c.* 100m distant, are the lower slopes of Truskelvie Hill (578 feet (*c.* 176m) OD), the bare rocky face of which overlooks the monument. The area provides rough pasture broken by numerous rock outcrops and boulders.

The monument consists of two megalithic chambers, both on the same axis and set 10m apart, toward the ends of a long narrow mound aligned ESE–WNW. That toward the W is a small well-preserved portal tomb. The other, which is largely collapsed, is of uncertain design, but it has been suggested that it is a second portal tomb (Ó Nualláin 1983b, 94). The mound is covered by a heavy growth of bracken and briars. Its western extremity cannot reliably be traced, nor can it be identified in the very heavy growth beyond the field wall that marks its E end. It is now 36m long and 10.5m wide. Toward the W it reaches 1m in height, but generally it does not exceed 0.5m. A stone wall, now quite collapsed, has been built along the top of the cairn to the N of the western chamber.

The well-preserved western chamber faces into the body of the cairn and stands *c.* 11m from its western end. It is 2.2m long and 1.2m wide internally. At the E, two tall portal-stones stand at either side of a high doorstone, and behind these are two opposed sidestones and a backstone. A corbel is in place above the northern sidestone, and there is another on the S side, which has slipped outward. A roofstone resting on the northern corbel, the backstone and the southern sidestone covers that part of the chamber behind the portal-stones. There is a small stone, 0.45m by 0.15m by 0.15m thick, wedged between it and the southern sidestone at the outer end of the latter. The roofstone now slopes down from N to S but would have rested in a horizontal position when the southern corbel was in place. It is expected that it would have supported a second, larger roofstone, the front of which would have rested on the tall portal-stones.

The two portal-stones, set longitudinally, are 0.85m apart. The southern one is 1.85m high. Its top surface slopes down to the outside. The northern portal-stone is 2m high. The doorstone, 1.2m high, leans outward slightly. It fully occupies the space between the portal-stones and is just over half their height. The sidestones, well matched and both flat topped, are set back slightly from the ends of the portal-stones. Both are free standing,



**Plate 178.** Toome (Dg. 123), from east.



**Plate 179.** Toome (Dg. 123). Front of western chamber from east.



**Plate 180.** Toome (Dg. 123). Eastern structure from north.

although each leans inward slightly and the southern one touches the edge of the backstone. The northern one is 0.55m high, and the southern one is 0.6m high. The backstone, which leans inward slightly, is gabled in outline and 0.8m high. There is a gap of 0.15m between it and the northern sidestone. The northern corbel measures 2.2m by 1.35m by 0.4m thick, and the slipped corbel at the S measures 1.55m by 0.9m by 0.3m thick. The roofstone measures 2.55m in overall length and 1.6m in maximum width and is up to 0.5m thick. Its heavier end is to the



front of the chamber. To the W of the chamber three stones, all firmly set, protrude from the surface of the mound, and there is another in front of the northern portal-stone. The tallest is 0.3m high. These may be cairn stones.

Only two stones of the structure toward the E end of the mound are clearly in position. One of these, a markedly gable-shaped stone, is at the E end and at right angles to the long axis of the mound. It leans eastward slightly and is 1.2m high. The second orthostat here is 0.7m to the SW of this and almost at right angles to it. This is a low stone that leans slightly to the N. It is 0.4m high. Opposite this is a stone that leans very markedly southward. It seems to have stood at right angles to the N end of the gabled stone. It is 1.9m long and 0.2m thick and would stand *c.* 1m high if upright. This and the upright stone opposite support, in an almost horizontal position, a slab measuring 1.7m by 1.6m by 0.25m thick. This may be a roofstone. Immediately W of the southern orthostat is a long slab on edge. It is 3.05m long, 0.55m thick and 1.1m high. It is not set in the ground and may be a fallen stone. Immediately N of the eastern half of this is a displaced slab measuring 1.45m by 0.35m by 0.55m. Another apparently displaced slab leans against the W end of the long slab. It measures 1.6m by 0.2m and is 0.9m high.

Ó Nualláin (1983b) has interpreted the gabled stone at the E as a likely backstone, the opposed stones at right angles to either end of it as sidestones, and the long stone next to the southern orthostat as a possible fallen portal-stone. If this is correct, the remains would be another example of the placement of two portal tomb chambers in a single cairn.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 65 (1848–51), 14; de Valera 1960, 135, no. 29; Ó Nualláin 1968a, 296–7, no. 11; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 36, no. 74; Ó Nualláin 1983b, 94, Donegal no. 13; SMR 1987, 65:5; Ó Nualláin 1989, 124; RMP 1995, 65:5.

**124. Tromaty.** OS 30:11:6 (68.4 20.7). ‘Giant’s Grave’ (1903). OD 400–500. C 492 313. Plate 181.

Fig. 84.

*Unclassified*

The monument is *c.* 2km due W of Quigley’s Point, which lies on the western shore of Lough Foyle. The immediate vicinity of the site provides level pasture. Toward the E is a gentle fall to the lough, and to the W is a steady rise to the summit of Crockglass, 2km away.

This greatly ruined monument is incorporated in an earthen field fence. Two opposed orthostats, 1.4m apart and aligned NNE–SSW, protrude from the northern face of the fence. Immediately S of each a partly concealed stone rises above the top of the earthen bank. The orthostat to the E is 1.1m high. That to the W is 0.6m high. The eastern one of the two partly concealed stones rises 0.4m above the slope of the earthen bank and 0.3m above the adjoining orthostat. The western stone is almost wholly concealed. It rises only 0.15m above the top of the



**Plate 181.** Tromaty (Dg. 124), from north-north-east.

fence. Approximately 1m S of this is an upright stone at the S side of the fence. This is 0.7m long, 0.45m thick and 1.2m high. It may not be *in situ*. Two metres to the E a displaced slab, 1.8m by 0.6m, lies against the fence.

According to an account in an OS Revision Name Book (1848), the structure then measured 12 feet (*c.* 3.65m) long and 4 feet (*c.* 1.2m) wide internally and was composed of stones set on edge, three at the W and four at the E. The stones are noted as varying from 1 foot to 3½ feet (*c.* 0.3m to *c.* 1.05m) high. It is also recorded that a 'flag' that had covered the structure had been removed a short time before the site was visited. In 1943 Colhoun (1995) noted the 'recent' occurrence of destruction at the monument, including the removal of a roofstone. In 1982, when surveying the monument, we were informed that a stone had been removed from each side of its northern end within local memory. The remains are clearly those of a megalithic tomb but must remain unclassified.

OS Revision Name Book, sheet 30 (1848), 59; Colhoun 1949, 117; Killanin and Duignan 1962, 380; Killanin and Duignan 1967, 381; Ó Nualláin 1983a, 46, no. 139; SMR 1987, 30:8; Ó Nualláin 1989, 142; Colhoun 1995, 78, no. 30/11; RMP 1995, 30:8.

**125. Crislaghmore.** OS 38:7:5 (56.5 34.9). Not marked (1905). OD 500–600. C 382 264. Plate 182. Fig. 85.

*Unclassified*

The tomb, not shown on any edition of the OS six-inch map, is on the Inishowen peninsula *c.* 2.6km N of Burnfoot. It stands on a slight terrace low on the NW-facing slope of Asdevlin Hill. The hillslope forms one side of a narrow valley opening on to a low-lying coastal strip of land facing Inch Island. The valley sides restrict the outlook to the NW and SE, and gently rising ground forming the head of the valley limits the view to the NE. There is a view south-westward along the valley to Inch Island, 4.5km distant, but the lower reaches of Lough Swilly beyond the island are all but hidden by it. The area provides rough grazing on wettish land. Upslope from the site, drier land gives way to patches of briars and furze bushes.

The structure consists of two lengths of a gallery, *c.* 2m apart, one to the WSW and the other to the ENE. A low but otherwise substantial stone marks the E end of the gallery. This is set just beyond the ends of two opposed sidestones. Another sidestone lies to the W of the northern of the two opposed ones. A further orthostat stands at right angles to the outer face of this. At the western end of the structure a low orthostat supports a roofstone, which also overlies a displaced stone. There are other displaced stones at this end of the monument. A hedge-grown earthen field bank with a drainage ditch alongside it runs NE–SW immediately beyond the W end of the gallery.

The stone crossing the E end of the gallery is 0.35m high. The southern one of the two opposed sidestones next to this is 1.4m high. The northern sidestone is 1.1m high. The sidestone next to this is 0.9m high. The stone



**Plate 182.** Crislaghmore (Dg. 125), from west-south-west.

at right angles to the side of the gallery is also 0.9m high. It leans slightly to the W. The orthostat at the WSW end of the structure is 0.55m high measured at its inner face. The roofstone here, the southern edge of which rests on the last, measures 2.2m along the axis of the gallery, 1.8m wide and 0.25m thick. The displaced slab under the roofstone measures *c.* 1.8m by 0.75m by 0.4m. Its original function is uncertain. Approximately 0.5m E of the roofstone the top of a largely buried stone, at least 0.8m in maximum dimension, protrudes from the ground. Its status is not known. Just N of the roofstone is a prostrate slab, also partly buried, and immediately to the E is another one. The former measures 1.1m by at least 1m by 0.2m thick, and the latter is at least 1m in maximum dimension and 0.15m thick. There can be little doubt that both originally formed part of the structure.

The original design of this tomb is unclear. An overall gallery length of at least 7m is indicated. The stone at the E end of the gallery may be a backstone, but it is so much lower than the adjoining orthostats that there is a possibility that it is a sillstone.

Colhoun 1949, 116; Colhoun 1995, 91.