A Survey of the Antiquities in the Barony of Small County, County Limerick.

PART IV.
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The parishes to be dealt with in this chapter(1) are as follows: —

Kilteely (part of)  ....  ....  1582 acres
Knockainy  ....  ....  9162  "
Monasteranenagh (part of)  ....  4428  "
Tullybracky (part of)  ....  999  "
Uregare (part of)  ....  1845  "

KILTEELY PARISH (01 & 02).

A considerable portion of this parish belongs in the neighbouring barony of Coonagh. The part of it which is within Small County consists of two small isolated areas separated from one another by the parish of Ballinlough(2). The land in both areas lies between 300' and 400' O.D., and much of it is rather wet and marshy. There are three townlands.

Carricktilde (326).


No trace remains. It was built on a high knoll of limestone much of which has been quarried away for road metal. Westropp (3) says that it was one of the oldest castles in Co. Limerick for it is first mentioned in 1193. King John granted it to W. De Nais. Carret, Earl of Kildare, rebuilt it in the early 16th century. The Sugar Earl held it in 1638. In 1605 it was owned by Sir E. Fitton.

Standing Stone. Sheet 33. W.19.8; N.15.0. O.D. 390'. Not on O.S. map.

A well shaped limestone slab, triangular in shape, 4' high and 1' thick.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 33. W.22.4; N.21.4. O.D. 360'.

This is an oval platform on the edge of which there is a bank. A fosse is not now visible but there may have been one. It has been partially levelled on the E. side. The entrance is not recognisable. The overall measurements are 134' north-south by 90'.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 33. W.22.4; N.20.4. O.D. 360'.

This is a circular platform surrounded by a fosse. The entrance is on the E. side where a causeway and ramp lead on to the platform. The greatest height of the latter over the fosse-bottom is 6' and the overall diameter is 150'.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 33. W.25.4; N.17.8. O.D. 390'.

This monument is a circular platform surrounded by a fosse. The platform has been damaged by the building of a fence on the N. side, and the S. side has been partially levelled to facilitate tillage of the platform itself. The maximum height of the platform is 2' over the field level. Overall diameter 150'.

Standing Stone. Sheet 33. W.25.2; N.17.6. O.D. 390'.

In the next field to the N. of the above monument there is a small standing stone, which is 60' to the N. of the fosse. It is a limestone pillar 4' 6" high by 3' 6" by 1' 3".

1. For parts I, II & III see N. Munst. Ant. Jour., III, (1942), 75ff; IV, (1943), 166ff & 222ff. Part I contains a map of the barony showing the parishes. In part II is an explanation of the arrangement of the inventory and of the various symbols used.


Complex of 12 Monuments. Sheet 33. W.27.0; N.25.9. (Centre of complex).

2 Earthworks, Type A.
9 Ringbarrows.
1 Tumulus.
Sand-pit producing human and horse bones.
Ancient Road.

All these monuments are situated in a low-land marsh meadow, the entire complex covering three fields. In one field are 8 of the barrows and the two platforms. In the nearest corner of the next field to the east is the tumulus, and the 9th barrow is in the nearest corner of the next field to the north. The road lies immediately to the west of all these, and the sand-pit is just west of this.

The Barrows are all exactly the same in method of construction but the diameters vary. They consist of very slight circular mounds surrounded by fosses and have no outer banks. The diameters vary between 15' and 36'. In their layout in the field there is no particular arrangement observable.

The Platforms have been partially destroyed in the making of a modern fence which cuts through the N.E. sides of both leaving only about half of each now visible. They are separated by a distance of 40'. The N.W. platform was circular and does not seem to have had a fosse. It is 3' high and its overall diam. is 72'. The S.E. platform is rectangular and also without a fosse. It is 3' high and now measures 72' by 61'.

The Tumulus is a circular earthen mound with a maximum height of about 6' at the S. side. It has a visible fosse on the E. and S. sides only, a feature which seems to be due to the fact that the field rises away from the monument on these sides. This fosse is very wide and it is likely that all the material for the mound came from it. The overall diam. varies between 60' and 66'.

The Ancient Road lies in the next field to the N.W. Where a portion of it was exposed during the making of a fence, its surface seemed to be entirely of broken limestone. It runs in a N.E. - S.W. direction beside a double fence and was traceable for the length of three fields. St. Patrick's itinerary through this part of Limerick included Kilcastley Hill. The road lies 11 miles to the S.E. of, and does not run towards, the hill, but local tradition holds that it was used by the Saint. The route travelled by Patrick is given in a map prepared by O Lochlainn (4) but it was not possible to identify the visible track with any part of the mapped route.

The Sand-pit is a little to the N.W. of the road but is in the same field. When getting out sand numerous bones have been brought up. They were usually contained in very rough cists made of small limestone boulders. The cists were probably long, though this is not certain. Human and horse bones have been recognised, but there were no associated finds.

Kildromin (749).

Holy Well. Sheet 33. W.2.7; N.7.0. Not on O.S. map.

Dedicated to St. Bridget. Devotion to it had ceased but was revived in 1940 on St. Bridget's Day. Original ritual is not known. The well is badly kept and is much damaged by cattle.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 33. W.1.9; N.3.0. O.D. 320'.

A circular platform on the edge of which there is a bank. The entrance is on the N.E. side where the fosse is causewayed. Maximum height of bank, 3' 6'', overall diameter, 150'. Situated in low-land marshy ground.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 33. W.2.1; N.2.8. O.D. 350'. Not on O.S. map.

Situated a little distance to the N.E. of the last monument described, and in the same field. It also is a circular platform with a bank at its edge. The entrance at the N.E. side is marked by a causeway across the fosse. Height, 3', and overall diameter, 150'.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 33. W.3.9; N.3.9. O.D. 360'.

A circular platform with a bank at its edge. From the bank the interior surface slopes to the middle from all sides, giving a hollow bowl shape. The entrance is 10' wide and is on

the N. side. A causeway leads across the fosse. The height of the bank over the fosse bottom is 8' and overall diameter 180'. Immediately outside the entrance, and a little to the E. of it, is a stone lined well. Locally this is believed to be ancient. It still supplies water and though in perfect condition, is no longer in use. The diameter at the top is 3'. The fort and well are situated on the N.W. slope of Kliteely Hill.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 32. E.8.5; N.3.9. O.D. 300'.

A circular earthen platform surrounded by a fosse. Around the S.W., S.E. and N.E. sides, near the edge, there is a hollow concentric with the margin of the platform. This feature is not easily explainable but it probably indicates an effort to dig away the monument. The height over the field is 2' and overall diameter is 102'. Situated in marshy low-land.

The third townland in the parish—Wonderhill (252)—contains no antiquities.

KNOCKAINY PARISH (H1 & H2).

The whole of this parish is within Small County and it occupies a large area on the W. side of the S.E. expansion of the barony. On the north it is bounded by the parish of Cahercorney; on the E. are Kilcullane, Ballynamona and Hospital; on the S., Athneasy and Uregare; on the W. its boundary is also that of the barony, while on the N.W. is a portion of Monasternanagh parish.

This parish contains the important centres of Lough Gur and Knockainy. Around the former are concentrated all the earliest monuments, and the latter is probably the region from which the Eoghanachta spread to the rest of Munster. The average level of the land is about 300' O.D., but Knockainy rises to 537' and Knockderrk to 485'. There are 28 townlands and the total area is 9162 acres.

Baggotstown East (456).

Church. Sheet 30. W.37.4; N.16.0.

No trace now visible, but the site is marked by a disused graveyard. The latter is not enclosed and appears as a mound from which protrude several rough stones. One legible stone was erected to the memory of John Bourchier, who died 1774. Nothing is known of the church.

Baggotstown West (459).

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 30. W.33.5; N.20.3. O.D. 289'.

A rectangular earthen platform surrounded by a fosse. The entrance is not recognisable. Its greatest height over the field is 4' and it measures overall 102' N.-S. by 88'.

Castle. Sheet 30. W.36.1; N.22.0.

No trace remains. In 1840 parts of the E. and S. walls still stood. It measured 33' by 23', and at the N.E. corner there was a square tower which measured 14' 6" by 13' 6". This was five storeys high and the roof of the ground floor was a stone vault. The walls were about 60' high and 6' 8" thick. All windows were quadrangular and built with well chiselled limestone. On the floor inside the tower lay a stone which is said(5) to have belonged to one of the chimney's, and which had the date 1619 inscribed on it. It is probable that this should have been read 1619. The castle was owned by the Baggots, a family which, according to Westropp(6), was established in Limerick before 1290. In 1587 the head rent of Edmund Baggot of Baggotstown was granted to Sir E. Fitzton. In 1609 the castle, mill and weir were granted to Baggot and Don O'Grady. In 1642 J. Baggot of Baggotstown was a member of the Kilkenny Parliament. In 1690 Capt. Hugh Massey garrisoned it, between the sieges of Limerick to protect it from the Irish.

Ballynagallagh (491).

Megalith. Sheet 30. W.14.5; N.27.3. O.D. 330'.

This is a very simply constructed monument, consisting of 4 stones only. Of the stones which form the sides of the chamber, one is a large rhomboid block, while the other two are flags on edge. The fairly large cap-stone rests entirely on the block. All of them are of

limestone. The very rough chamber thus formed is open at the west end and closed at the east, the overall length E-W being 8'. Called Leaba na Muicce on the O.S. map. Borlase (7), has confused this monument with the wedge-shaped tomb in Lough Gur townland some short distance to the N.E.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.12.9; N.29.0 O.D. 285'

Only a few scattered stones remain. The original plan is not now recognisable (3).

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.11.9; N.38.4. O.D. 250'

All that remains of this tomb (0) is one large stone which is almost prostrate.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.11.7; N.36.6. O.D. 250'

This is very much defaced, only one of the side stones of the chamber remaining. Resting on it is another stone which may have been a cap-stone, but this even is not certain, for it was removed by the land-owner who bored a hole in it near one end and used it as a gate-post. It was later returned to the site due to superstitious fears. About 3' to the E. of these there is a third stone which is partly embedded in a modern fence. It is not possible to say whether this is a collapsed end-, side-, or cap-stone.

Tumulus. Sheet 32. W.13.0; N.26.0. O.D. 280'

This is a small mound of earth and stones of which part has been dug away leaving the structure with a hollow centre. At the S. base are two large stones which may have been part of a kerb. On the N.W. side are traces of an outer bank but this may be the material dug out of the mound. It measures 24' E-W and 26' N-S. Its greatest height is 4'. It is built on a little platform of rock and is called on the map The Hero's Grave.

Cranneog. Sheet 32. W.14.0; N.20.2. O.D. 247'

This cranneog is called Church Island on the earliest edition of the O.S. map but it is not shown on the recent revisions. It is situated on the present shore-line on the S. side of Lough Gur and appears merely as a small solid area surrounded on the landward side by a soft marsh. It seems to have been connected with the mainland by a causeway.

Ancient Road. Sheet 32.

Called Cladh na Leac on the O.S. map. It runs north and south on the west side of the lake, and consists of a sunken way marked on each side by low fences on which are placed boulders at intervals. Its northern end fades out when it enters a large field near the N.W. corner of the lake. Its southern end fades out just beyond the tumulus called the Hero's Grave (described above).


Lynch says (10) that there were two small black pillar stones on the edge of a marsh in the west of Ballynagallagh townland. There is no trace of these now nor does anyone in the locality remember their positions.

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7. Dolmens of Ireland, I, 47. The site has also been referred to by Windle: P.R.I.A., XXX, C, (1912), 295.
Lenihan: Hist. of Limk., 725.
Harkness: Quarterly Jour. of Science, (1869), 394.
O'Donovan: O.S. Letters Limerick.

8. This structure has been referred to by:—

9. See foot note No. 8.

Ancient Road. Sheet 32.

On the E. side of the main road from Holy Cross to Bruff, and running at right angles to it, is what seems to be a sort of sunken way (like Cladh na Leac). On one side it is marked by a low fence on which small boulders are set at intervals. It is only traceable for the width of two fields, but if continued for the width of another field to the E., it would cut into Cladh na Leac. On O'Lochlainn's map (11) is shown a road from Limerick to Holy Cross, but the map is not sufficiently detailed to decide whether this piece of road is part of that route or not.

Abbey. Sheet 32. W.15.0; N.26.2.

This is said to have been founded in the year 981 A.D., (12) but the founder's name is not known. It was destroyed during the Danish wars, but was re-founded in 1288 by a branch of the Desmond family called Fitzgibbon. Lewis says that it existed till the Dissolution. Only one small fragment of wall remains. It has been frequently confused with St. Catherine's Abbey in the barony of Shanid (13), whereas it actually depended on Killeene Nunnery in Thomond (Lenihan, 91 n.).

Bottomstown (773).

2 Earthworks, Type A. Sheet 40. W.57.7; N.24.7. O.D. 300'.

These two monuments are situated in a low-land marshy area. They are built on a kind of platform which is probably natural, but may in part be artificial. The monuments are on the western edge of the platform and the eastern part of it is cut off from them by an ancient fence. The N. monument is a circular platform 3' high, around which there is a fosse. The overall diameter is 120'. The second monument is due south from the latter by a distance of 45'. It is identical with the first except that the diameter is smaller, being only 90' overall. The entrances are not recognisable.

Correconfeardaddy (30).

Natural Cave. Sheet 32. W.41.6; N.57.4. O.D. 350'.

This seems to have been a small cave in the limestone rock on the south side of Knockainy Hill. It has now disappeared owing to the continued extension of a nearby quarry. It is called Aisce Ciar's Cave on the map.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.41.3; N.58.8. O.D. 270'.

In a field immediately south of the road which runs along the S. base of Knockainy Hill. It has been erected within living memory as a scratching post for cattle.

Kilballyowen (1086).

Castle. Sheet 32. W.29.6; S.6.5.

No trace now visible. A modern Georgian house has been built on the site and it is said that parts of the castle were incorporated in this.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.29.6; N.41.4.

At the S.W. base of Knockderk Hill there is a standing stone. It was erected within living memory as a scratching-post for cattle.

Knockainy West (1150).

Church. Sheet 32. E.36.3; S.1.3.

This is supposed to have been an Augustinian Priory founded between 1190 and 1200 A.D. (14), the founder being John FitzRobert. Nothing now remains of the fabric of the first foundation, but the tower of a later erection still stands on the site. Fixed to the base of this inside there is a slab to the memory of one of the O'Grady's, which bears the date 1592, but the tower is not even as old as this. Over the doorway was a slab on which was depicted a

12. Lewis: Top. Dict. of Ireland, I, 27.
crucifixion, and though the carving has an early appearance it is probably not older than the 17th century. The slab is now stored in the base of the tower. A modern Church of Ireland has been built close to the site of the old building.

Castle. Sheet 32. E.35.8; N.0.4.

Though now levelled to the ground its site can still be traced. The first mention of it is in 1199 when it was granted to J. De Gray. In 1515, James, Earl of Desmond, held it. Westropp (15) gives all its successive owners from the early date to the 18th century.

Castle. Sheet 32. E.37.5; S.0.5.

This still exists for the greater part of its height—three storeys, the roof of the ground floor being a stone vault. As usual it is built in two sections, the axes of the vaults in each part being at right angles to those of the other. It measures 22' by 13' 6" inside and is about 40' high. The walls are 7" thick. It is said (16) to have been built by Matthew O'Grady for the use of the Earl of Desmond in the year 1500.

Hill Fort (?) Sheet 32. Knockainy Hill, O.D. 370'.

Between the 300' and 400' contour lines on the W. slope of Knockainy, there is a bank which runs round the hill almost parallel to them. It is of earth and stones and parts of it have the appearance of the bank of a fort or that of an ancient fence, but at other points where the stones are clearly visible, it looks like a modern wall. Both ends of it fade into modern walls. This slope of the hill was at one time a plantation of trees and was cut off from the rest of the hill by stone walls. The plantation is practically gone and so are the walls, but it is possible that what now looks like an ancient bank is merely the remains of one of these walls. On the east shoulder of the hill there is a run of ancient fence, which lies between the 400' and 500' contours, but is not parallel to them, and though it is possible that it is part of the hill fort, it seems more likely to be just one of the many ancient field fences which abound on this slope of the hill.

Tumulus. Sheet 32. W.50.1; N.54.1. O.D. 537'.

This occupies the highest point of the E. shoulder of Knockainy hill. The N.E. quadrant of the mound has been badly damaged by efforts to dig it away or to find treasure. It measures 70' N-S and 45' E-W and seems to have been built of earth and stones. The height is about 7'. Westropp (17) gives its diameter as between 48' and 55' and its height as 11'. It is difficult to decide exactly where the edge of the mound lies, and by taking the edge sufficiently far out one could find a height of 11'. Westropp also mentions a faintly marked enclosure and a fainter circular hollow adjoining the tumulus. The enclosure seems to be part of an ancient field, and the hollow seems to be a natural depression on the hill. The same author suggests that this is the cairn of Aine, but there would not appear to be much evidence for this identification. It is called Dumainey on the O.S. map.

Ring-barrows. Sheet 32. B.42.1; S.5.5. O.D. 530'.

A short distance to the W. of the tumulus there are four ring-barrows. They lie close together in a line running N-S. The three southern barrows are low mounds surrounded by fosses, while the northern monument had a higher mound and seems to have had an outer bank between which and the mound there was a fosse. A large portion of it has been dug away—much of the mound and almost all of the bank. The overall diameter is 60', the mound itself being 18' approx. and 4' high. The overall diameters of the other monuments vary between 68' and 73' and the heights are from 3' to 4' 6". Westropp (18) without much evidence to support his claim, identifies these sites as the habitations of Ecside, Eoghabal, Aine, and For Fi, legendary figures connected with the hill of Knockainy.

Ring-barrow. Sheet 32. W.51.5; N.54.7. O.D. 500'.

On the S.E. slope of the E. shoulder of Knockainy the O.S. map shows what seems to be a large barrow. On the ground practically no trace remains, as the monument has been almost obliterated. Its overall diameter seems to have been about 100'.

16. O.S. Field Name Book No. 89.
Ring-barrow. Sheet 32. W.51.4; N.55.1. O.D. 500'.

As in the case of the last monument, the map shows what seems to have been a large barrow, but it also is now nearly obliterated. The overall diameter seems to have been about 100'.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 32. W.41.5; S.5.5. O.D. 450'.

A circular platform with a bank at its edge. The W. half has been partially levelled. Westropp calls its measurements as 108' E-W and 125' N-S, but in fact the monument is circular and the overall diameter is 190'. The entrance seems to have been on the E. side where the fosse is causewayed. The max. height of the bank over the fosse-bottom is about 15'. It is situated on the highest point of the west shoulder of Knockainy. Westropp on insufficient evidence identifies it as the St. of Boghbal or the fort called Dun Ciuach repaired by Brian Boru.

Stone Fort. Sheet 32. W.46.9; S.4.5. O.D. 350'.

A circular stone rampart from 7' to 10' thick, built with a facing inside and out of large stones with a rubble core. There is no fosse. The entrance seems to have been on the E. side. On the outside of the fort and from the N. side of the entrance, a length of ancient fence runs out and turns southward continuing till it comes to the edge of the rock plateau on which the fort is built. The height of the rampart is 2' 6" to 3', and the overall diameter is 132'. In the neighbourhood of the fort ancient fences are visible.

Stone Fort. Sheet 32. W.47.0; N.54.9. O.D. 430'.

A small fort consisting of a circular bank surrounding an open space. The rampart, now 2' 6" high, is very collapsed and the entrance is not recognisable. Overall diameter 108'. Ancient fences are visible in its vicinity.


Now very collapsed but seems to have had a stone rampart which remains to a height of 2' 6". The entrance is not recognisable. Overall diameter 98'. It lies on the W. slope of Knockainy Hill just inside the Hill Fort bank described above.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.43.8; N.54.9. O.D. 430'. Not on O.S. map.

A wall shaped limestone pillar situated high up on the S. side of Knockainy. It is 4' 7" high and measures 1' by 7" at the base.

Small Enclosure. Sheet 32. W.48.9; N.50.7. O.D. 370'. Not on O.S. map.

This may be a hut site or an animal enclosure. It is on the S. slope of Knockainy. It consists of a rectangular level space which is bounded on the N.W. and S.E. sides by walls built of single rows of stones. The N.E. side is formed from the natural rock of the higher part of the hill, which has been quarried out to a depth of about 3', while the S.W. side seems to have been closed by an earthen bank. The entrance is on the S.E. side and is 7' wide and 13' from the S. corner. The jambs on each side of the gate are of large stones 1' 6" high. It measures overall 35' by 30'. There are many ancient fences in its vicinity.


A rectangular structure now very collapsed and situated on the S. slope of Knockainy. Three of its walls remain, but the fourth side has been obliterated in the building of a modern fence. The N. and E. walls are of large carefully placed limestone blocks, while the south side is marked by an earthen bank. All remain to a height of about 3'. The entrance is not recognisable. It measures overall 68' by 42'.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 32. W.58.6; N.51.0. O.D. 230'.

A circular platform surrounded by a fosse. Overall diameter 152', height 4'. The entrance is not recognisable. Centred on the E-W diameter and just inside the E. edge of the platform there is a ring-barrow. This is a low mound surrounded by a fosse and has an overall diameter of 30'. Immediately to the S.E. of the platform is another barrow, similar in appearance, but having a diameter of 21'.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 40. W.56.8; N.3.8. O.D. 280'.

A circular platform surrounded by a fosse with an overall diameter of 140'. This is situated on the edge of the bank of the Camoge river which has eaten away almost half of the E. side of the platform. The height of the latter is 4'. The entrance is not recognisable. It is called Pollmaechnach on the O.S. map.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.42.7; N.57.7. O.D. 290'. Not on O.S. map.

Situated at the base of the W. part of Knockainey Hill. It is a limestone pillar 4' 6" high and measures 1' 3" by 10" at the base. It leans considerably to the S.

Long Cists. Sheet 40. W.29.2; N.0.8. O.D. 250'.

These cists were first uncovered in the course of digging for sand. A rescue excavation was carried out(20) on behalf of the National Museum, when a total of about 8 burials was uncovered, some of which were unprotected skeletons. Others had been removed before the Excavator's arrival and still others were left unexcavated. The bodies lay E-W with the heads to the W., and all were extended burials. There were no associated finds but in the vicinity of the graves a quern stone was found. It is probable that the graves belong to the Early Iron Age or to the Early Christian period(21).

Primitive Bridge. Sheet 32. E.34.2; S.4.3.

No trace now survives. It consisted of a number of large stepping-stones across the bed of the Camoge river at Knockainey village. On them flags were laid so as to form a foot bridge. Local tradition held that it was the goddess Aine who placed the stones in the water, and marks on them were said to be her footprints. Hence the name Cloighmaechnain given on the O.S. map. It was removed in 1930 to make room for a modern bridge(22).

Ford. Sheet 32. E.34.2; S.4.9.

This ford was the crossing for animals and vehicles just below the primitive bridge described above, and was in use up to the time of the building of the modern structure. At that time the bed of the river was cleaned and deepened. In the centre of the ford before the cleaning there were three standing stones in a line across the river, which served to indicate the shallow part when the river was in flood. The stones still exist but are now completely on dry land. Marked Athmaechnach on the O.S. map.

Well. Sheet 32. E.42.3; S.4.0.

"There is a curious well half way down the slope from Aine's cairn south, cut in the rock, but with only a small flow even in wet weather. The rectangular cleavage of the rocks makes it very regular. It is partly fenced with large blocks torn out of the crag."(23). This is merely a slight issue of water from a rock crevice. The fencing mentioned is done to prevent cattle from getting hurt on the rocks.

Holy Well. Sheet 32. W.55.9; N.59.9.

This well stood outside the wall of the old Catholic church described above. It has been closed in and all devotion has ceased. It is called St. Mary's Well on the O.S. map.

Lough Gur (1256).

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.20.1; N.19.0. O.D. 256'.

This structure is a long gallery divided into two chambers, a small and a large. Its axis lies E-W. At the W. end, which is closed, is the small chamber, the E. end being open. The sides of the chambers were formed of double walling with a rubble filling in between. On plan the sides are approximately parallel, but nevertheless it belongs to the wedge-shaped group. It has been excavated(24). Among the finds were a number of burials and fragments

20. By Dr. Seán P. Ó Riordáin.
21. Concerning sites such as this see Raftery: P.R.I.A., XLVI, C. (1914), 299ff, where he suggests that these graves must be ascribed to the E.I.A.
22. For a detailed description of the ancient structure see Crawford: J.R.S.A.I., XLVII, (1917), 82.
24. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. Ó Riordáin.
of pottery, which included sherds of neolithic and Beaker wares. After excavation the fallen cap-stones were replaced as nearly as possible in their original positions. As mentioned above, in connection with the megalith called Leaba na Muice in Ballynagallagh townland, Borlase(25) has confused these two structures.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.20.4; N.19.3. O.D. 300'.

". . . . A straight road between rows of 30 stones led (from the megalith just described) up to a mass of rock resting on four supports . . . . This tabular measured 10' 6" in circumference, 6' in breadth and 2' in thickness"(23). This is an extremely doubtful site. The place in question seems to be a fortuitous arrangement of outcropping limestone, but it is such that it looks like a megalith. The lines of stones mentioned seem to be natural outcropping boulders.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.20.3; N.12.3. O.D. 400'.

A doubtful structure consisting of six stones only. Four of them are in a straight line lying E-W. The other two lie 15° to the N. All the stones are large and suggest the remains of a dolmenic monument. Situated high up on the E. shoulder of Knockadoon Hill.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.28.5; N.16.9. O.D. 310'.

". . . A tabular stone supported by three stones. It measures in length 7', in breadth 6' at one end and 4' at the other. It is one foot in thickness"(27). A very doubtful site. The stones mentioned seem to be naturally outcropping boulders.

Kistvaen Field. Sheet 32. W.27.1; N.8.1. O.D. 350'.

The field has the above name on the O.S. map. There are various references to it by previous writers(28) who say that stone cists and bones have been found here. There is a tradition in the neighbourhood that the field was a graveyard at one time. Parts of the field have been tilled repeatedly and in 1941 the whole field was ploughed up, but no indication of the presence of cists was found. A number of trial trenches were made at different parts of the ploughed area but the results were entirely negative.

Cist Graves. Sheet 32. Exact location not known.

"In a field now tilled near Lough Gur Castle are many graves lined with stone(29)."

It has not been possible to locate this site, but the quotation does not refer to the Kistvaen Field.


These are situated on the Hill of Knockadoon and have been excavated(30). One was a rectangular house which measured 32' by 20' on the inside. The stone bases of the walls remained to a height of about 1' 6" and were apparently intended to raise and preserve a perishable superstructure from the damp of the ground. The entrance was at the S.W. corner. The interior was divided into three aisles along the length of the floor by two lines of post-holes. The hearth was in the centre of the floor. The finds were mainly fragments of pottery of neolithic type.

25. Dolmens of Ireland, I, 47-8. This monument has also been referred to by :—
O'Donovan : O.S. Letters, Limerick.
Dowd : The County of Limerk., 78.
Child : Prehistoric Communities, 60-1.
J.E.S.A.I., Antiquarian Handbook Series No. 7, 124.
Harkness : Quarterly Jour. of Science, (1869), 394.

Harkness : Quarterly Jour. of Science, (1869), 394.
30. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. Ó Riordáin, who was also responsible for the work done on the four following sites.
Beside it were the remains of another house of indeterminate plan. The finds were of a similar nature.

**House Sites.** Sheet 32. W.16.9; N.15.5. O.D. 280°. Not on O.S. map.

These were also on Knockadoon and have been excavated. Within an enclosing stone wall were a number of circular posthole houses of an average diameter of 20'. The pottery was neolithic, but some later types in the upper levels indicated that occupation on the site continued into the Bronze Age.

**House Site.** Sheet 32. W.17.5; N.15.0. O.D. 310°. Not on O.S. map.

Also on Knockadoon and situated in a small valley each end of which was cut off from the hill by a field wall. When excavated the finds were similar to those on the last site.

**House Sites.** Sheet 32. W.21.1; N.6.6. O.D. 300°

Called *The Spectacles* on the O.S. map. The name arose because there was one circular hut and what appeared from surface indications to be another, side by side. Excavation showed that one of the circles marked was just a chance arrangement of out-cropping rocks. The other was a well built structure, the wall base being constructed of two stone facings with a rubble filling between. The entrance was on the W. side and from it a paved causeway ran to the edge of the little plateau on which the hut stands. Divided off from this by ancient field walls were two other huts, one of which was oval and constructed of posts, the other being rectangular and of stone. The finds indicated a date in the Early Christian Period, but the occupation may have gone on for a considerable time.

**Small Enclosures.** Sheet 32. W.26.5; N.13.5. O.D. 350°. Not on O.S. map.

Situated on the N.W. slope of Carraig Ailie Hill. There are three enclosures formed of rough standing stones and in places where it was convenient, the natural rock outcrop has been utilised. They were excavated but the results were entirely negative.


Situated on the W. slope of Knockadoon Hill and not far from the lake edge. It measures about 30' by 20' and is built against the base of a small cliff. One side of the rectangle is continued in the direction of the lake as an ancient field fence.

**Stone Circles.** Sheet 32.

The following three circles are situated on Knockadoon. The letters used are those given them by Windle (31).

**Circle J.** W.18.0; N.15.3. O.D. 330°.

This circle consists of two concentric rings of contiguous or almost contiguous stones, the annular space between the rings being filled with rubble. None of the stones are more than 4' high and most of them are much less. The overall diameter is 100'. In the S.E. quadrant of the interior is a small standing stone 2' 2" high by 1' 7" by 11", and is 15' 6" from the nearest point of the inner circle of stones. The entrance is not recognisable. The natural rock outcrop where it was convenient, has been used to form parts of the circumference.

It was partially excavated (32), the portions examined being around the standing stone. Surrounding the stone was a rude circle of small boulders inside which were found the bones of an infant whose age was from 6 to 8 years. Some distance to the W., and inside a similar circle, a cist was found. In this were adult and infant bones. There were no associated objects on which the structure could be dated, but as it is similar in many ways to the next circle to be described (circle K), which has been shown to be Bronze Age, it may be presumed that circle J belongs to the same period.

**Circle K.** W.17.0; N.14.7.

This is the largest circle on Knockadoon its diameter being 102'. It is composed of two concentric rings of stones placed close together leaving an annular space between, which is filled with rubble. The entrance is on the E. side. Excavation (33) showed that

33. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. Ó Riordáin.
there had been four wooden posts terminating the ends of the circle at the entrance passage. Among the finds were the skeletons of a number of infants some of which had necklets of bone and stone beads. There were fragments of neolithic and bronze age wares which indicate that the circle was built in the early bronze age.

Circle L. W.20.8; N.14.0.

This circle is on the E. shoulder of the hill overlooking the partially drained marsh. In the main it is very similar to those already described. Again its circumference is composed of two concentric rings of stones with a rubble filling in the annular space. Parts of the periphery are composed of the natural rock outcrop where convenient. A considerable arc on the south side has disappeared. Overall diameter is 75'. It is so similar to those already described that it may be concluded that it dates to the same period.

The following sites are also on Knockadoon, but as none of them has been excavated, little can be said of them.


This is a doubtful site. On the ground it appears as a roughly circular complex of moss-grown stones with a diameter of 49'. It may be a circle or the remains of a small cairn, or just a fortuitous arrangement of out cropping boulders. In mapping the site the Ordnance Surveyor mistakenly located it a short distance to the S.W. of its true position. He then marked the true position with a cross (the symbol for the site of a vanished monument) and entered on the map beside it the words Dun Gair (site of), thus showing two sites when in fact, there should be only one. This has led to considerable confusion as it has been called a fort by some writers and a stone circle by others (34). Dun Gair is one of the forts mentioned as having been fortified by Brian Boru (see Part I of this paper, p.81).


This site is on the west slope of the hill and is called Seaghammnatee on the O.S. map. It is a semicircular arc composed of two concentric lines of stones with a rubble filling between. The diameter is about 90'. It is built around the edge of an amphitheatre-like hollow and does not seem to have been a complete circle at any time. There are several other similar arcs on the hill.


Another incomplete circle situated a little distance to the N.W. of circle K. It is constructed as before of concentric rings of stones with a rubble filling between. It is nearly a complete circle being open only on the N.W. side for a short distance. Its maximum diameters are 90' and 78'.

The following three circles are on the Hill of Knockroe to the N.E. of the lake. The letters applied to two of them are those of Windle's list (35).

Circle O. Sheet 32. W.27.7; N.9.4.

This circle, called locally "The Lisheen," has been excavated (36). It consists of an earthen bank with a facing of stones on each side. Inside this, excavation showed that there was a fosse. In the centre is a small circle of free standing stones concentric with the outer stone faced bank. The diameter of the outer circle is 184' and that of the inner small one is 49'. No dating evidence was discovered.

34. This site has been referred to by:—
O'Donovan: O.S. Letters for Limerick.
Dowd: The County of Limerick, 85.
Lewis: Top. Dir. Ireland, I. 28.
J.R.S.A.I. Antiquarian Magazine, No. 7, 125.
Lynch: J.C.H.A.S, XIX, (1893), II.
Croker: Gentleman's Mag., (1823), Pt, I, 111.

35. Windle op. cit.

36. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. O Riordain. It has been referred to by all the authors cited for circles J, K, and L.
Circle P. Sheet 32. W.28.2; N.9.2. O. D. 360°.

This is a flat-topped mound surrounded by a kerb of stones some of which are slightly higher than the level of the interior. There is no entrance. The overall diameter is 33' and the surface of the interior is 3' higher than the surrounding field. It might be looked upon as a truncated tumulus with a stone kerb. On excavation it produced two burials in urns dating to the bronze age.

Stone Circle (?). Sheet 32. Location not known.

This circle is said to have stood beside circles O and P described above. No trace of it is now visible and there is no memory of it in the neighbourhood. It measured "28 yards in diameter and 113 in circumference."

Stone Circle (?). Sheet 32. Exact location not known.

Lynch says that there was a large stone circle on the top of Kilalough Hill on the S. side of the lake. No such circle exists, but there are some ancient field fences, parts of which he may have mistaken for a circle.

Stone Circle (?). Sheet 32. W.22.7; N.11.3. Not on O.S. map.

The authors cited in foot notes 38 and 39 both refer to a circle near Bourchier's castle and at the old edge of the lake, but the site to which they refer is not a circle. It is an acute angle (of about 80 degrees) enclosed by two lines of stones which have a standing stone at the apex. It is not now possible to say what this structure was. The standing stone is 5' high and leans considerably to the S. The other stones are low boulders and are about 1' 6'' high.

Stone Circles (?). Sheet 32. S. shore of Lake.

Croker mentions the existence of "various Druidical works . . . three stone circles . . . a serpentine passage formed of parallel stones . . . further along the shore of the lake, two circles and other remains are to be discerned." The lake shore mentioned runs eastward for some hundreds of yards from the ruins of New Church. None of the monuments can now be seen and it is extremely doubtful if they ever existed. There is much scattered outcrop all over this area and some of it may have been mistaken for antiquities.

Rock Outcrop. Sheet 32. W.16.3; N.13.3.

This is a natural flat rock outcrop on the W. side of Knockadoon Hill and not far from the lake edge. It is called Leos Ruaithair Ruaidh on the O.S. map. Red Rury is said to have been a ferry man in the time of Garold Faria.


This, called Bourchier's Castle, consists now of a tower about 75' high, of five storeys, the roofs of the ground and top floors being stone vaults. It is built in the usual two sections, the axes of the vaults in each part being at right angles to those of the other. A stone spiral stair gives access to all floors and to the flat roof. Westropp says this and the Black Castle nearby were built in the 15th century and held by the Earls of Desmond as one of their chief estates. It figured in many of the Desmond wars.

The Black Castle. Sheet 32. W.15.9; N.20.0.

As mentioned above, this is said to have been built in the 15th century. The remains consist of a rectangular enclosure at the two S. corners of which there are the remains of square towers. That_C. W. remains for part of its height, but the other is practically gone. The main entrance was at the S.E. corner and from there a stone causeway led out across the marshy shallows to the solid ground outside. The remaining tower measures 25' by 12' inside and its S. wall is about 30' high.

37. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. O Riordain.
40. Croker: op. cit.
41. Lynch: op. cit. in foot note 39.
42. P.R.I.A., XXVI, C, (1906-07), 179. A detailed description will be found in — Barry: J.R.S.A.I., XXXIII, (1903), 196.
Stone Fort. Sheet 32. W.33.2; N.10.3. O.D. 320'.

A small structure now very collapsed. On the W. side where a modern fence has been built the rampart has entirely disappeared. A gap 15' wide on the E. side is probably the entrance. None of the facing stones of the bank are visible. There is no fosse. The overall diameter is 88' and the maximum height of the rampart is 4'. Situated on the S.E. side of Knockroe Hill.

2 Stone Forts. Sheet 32. W.27.2; N.14.7. O.D. 400'.

These are situated on the hill called Carraig Aile on the S.E. side of the lake, and both have been excavated (43).

The more northern of the two looked the more perfect before excavation as its rampart remained for most of the circumference to a height of about 4'. It is oval in shape measuring N-S 140' by 105' E-W. The entrance was on the E. side at which point the rampart was 15' thick and had a good facing of stones both inside and out. On each side of the entrance passage there were recesses to take the two halves of a wooden door. At two points on the inside flights of steps led on to the top of rampart. The finds indicate a date towards the end of the first millennium A.D.

The second fort before excavation was only barely discernible but it was found to be in even better condition than the first one when examined. The stone rampart remained for the whole circumference and had an excellent facing of large blocks both inside and out. It was sub-rectangular rather than circular, its max. overall diameter being 152'. The height of the bank was 4' and the greatest width 15'. At six points on the inside flights of steps led on to the top of the bank which may have been much higher originally. The entrance again is on the E. side and it also had recessed sides to take the gateway. Leading from the entrance across the fort was a paved pathway which gave access to a number of circular and rectangular huts in the enclosure. The finds were ornaments and objects of everyday use and among them were some pieces of silver which had a characteristic Viking decoration. This find dates the structure to the end of the first millennium A.D.

On the level space between the forts were a number of enclosures each containing a house. These seem to have been built when there was no longer any need for the protection of a fort rampart and belonged to a period a little later than the last fort described.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 32. W.34.4; N.9.7. O.D. 290'.

A circular platform on the edge of which there is a bank. The entrance, 12' wide, was on the N. Outside it a causeway crosses the fosse. Height of the bank is 4' and overall diameter is 90'. Situated in good low-land on the bank of a stream.

Bullan Stone. Sheet 32. W.25.9; N.10.7. O.D.260'.

This is a circular hole cut in a piece of naturally outcropping rock. It measures 1' in diameter at the top and is 1' 3" deep. Locally it is called the wart well.


A high limestone rock knob called Carriganaffrin on the O.S. map. It is said locally that Mass was celebrated in a crevice in its west side during Penal times. Most sites used in this way are inconspicuous or hidden away in glens, but this rock is visible for miles around.


Two sites called the Bailey Islands are shown on the first edition of the O.S. map, but do not appear on the later editions. They were situated in the marsh to the E. of Knockadoon, but are not now visible. All efforts to trace them have failed.

Garold Island. Sheet 32. W.14.5; N.13.3.

This is the largest island in the lake and has been supposed by some to be in part a crannog, though there is little evidence to support such a view. A causeway on wooden piles led on to it from Knockadoon Hill. A few traces of it remain. A few fragmentary walls of what is said to have been a castle remain in the centre of the island.

43. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. O Riordáin.

This crannog is no longer a complete island. Since the partial drainage of the lake it has become connected to the mainland on the S. side. It was constructed by dropping boulders into the water in the form of a circle, and when these came to the surface, the central hollow was filled up with layers of brush wood and earth. The overall diameter is 90'.

Ancient Road.

The following five standing stones are part of the line of stones mentioned above (Part I. of this paper, N. Munst. Ant. Jour., III, (1942), 93, par. 2) as marking the line of an ancient roadway. They will be dealt with in order from S. to N. Those called N, Q, R, and S, have been lettered thus on Windle's list(44). These four are also marked on the O.S. map but the fifth is not.

Stone N. Sheet 32. W.29.4; N.17.6. O.D. 305'.

A large limestone flag 6' high by 6' 9" wide at the base, and 1' 9" thick.


A limestone pillar 5' high, and 1' 9" by 1' 4" at the base. It is not on the O.S. map.

Stone Q. Sheet 32. W.26.2; N.7.6. O.D. 350'.

A limestone pillar 4' high and 1' by 6' at the base.

Stone R. Sheet 32. W.25.1; N.6.3. O.D. 390'.

A very low limestone pillar 1' 6" high by 10" by 6" at the base. It is probable that this stone was much higher at one time.

Stone S. Sheet 32. W.24.5; N.3.6. O.D. 450'.

A large limestone flag 8' high and 6' by 1' at the base. It leans somewhat to the W. and is now incorporated in a modern fence.

Two Standing Stones. Sheet 32. W.22.1; N.19.5. O.D. 400'.

These stones are marked I on Windle's list. They are situated high up on Killalough Hill and both are of volcanic breccia. They are low boulders and look more like erratics than stones erected by human agency.

Five Standing Stones.

The following five stones are not marked on the O.S. map. They appear to be ancient standing stones, but it is possible that some of them are recent erections as scratching posts for cattle.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.20.5; N.1.0. O.D. 350'.

A well weathered limestone pillar 3' 9" high and 1' by 10" at the base.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.24.4; N.6.1. O.D. 400'.

A well weathered limestone pillar 3' 3" high and 1' by 10" at the base.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.30.2; N.10.4. O.D. 390'.

A rough limestone slab 3' 4" high and 3' by 1' 3" at the base. It is well weathered.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.19.7; N.7.3. O.D. 250'.

A well weathered limestone slab 3' 9" high and 2' 2" by 1' 4" at the base. The socket in which it stands has been packed up with small boulders.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.22.1; N.2.9. O.D. 350'.

A tall well weathered limestone pillar 5' high and 2' 3" by 1' 2" at the base.

Fulacht Fiadh. Sheet 32. W.21.8; N.9.8. O.D. 250'.

In the Windele MSS. letters there is a mention of what appears to be fulacht fiadh near Borouscher's Castle on Knockadoon, near the edge of the lake. Though the site of this could not be identified with absolute certainty, the above location is probably correct. There is nothing on the site now to indicate its presence. It is said that "intermixed with burnt stones were numerous fragments of animal bones and a great number of large fluted teeth . . . those of the large deer whose antlers abound in the neighbourhood." (45).

New Church. Sheet 32. W.17.2; N.20.7.

This church is said to be coeval with the Desmond Castles in the neighbourhood. "It was without doubt, Desmond's chapel of ease . . . . In 1642 it was in a ruinous state and was restored on the accession of Charles II, by Rachael, Countess of Bath, who added the belfry on the W. gable. As it was now used for the first time for the reformed worship, it got the name of New Church (46). The Countess also presented a chalice and paten which bear the date 1669. They were afterwards used in the Protestant church at Knockainy but have now been transferred to Emly. Some time since 1900 the ruin has been conserved by Count De Salis. The edges of the gables were made good and the walls repointed. At the same time a coloured glazed plaque of the Madonna and Child was inserted high up on the S. wall.

Inside it measures 56' by 21'. The window in the E. gable is round headed and has a wide internal splay. On the outside it had two lights both of which were pointed. At a distance of 3' from the E. gable there is a window in the S. wall, which is a pointed silt with a square hood moulding. The W. gable has a similar window but without the hood. On the inside both of these windows are rectangular splayed openings. The door is in the S. wall at a distance of 21' from the W. gable. Inside the head of this one is a flat arch and on the outside a round one. It is carried out in limestone cut to a very simple form. At the E. end of the N. wall are traces of a building which projected to the N. and was probably a sacristy. There was a door from the sanctuary of the church but this is now built up.

A graveyard still in use surrounds the ruin. It is said (47) that Thomas O'Connellian, a minstrel bard, is buried here, but his grave is unknown.

Church. Sheet 32. W.22.0; N.17.1.

Called Killalough Church on the O.S. map. No trace survives and nothing is known of it. A slight mound of earth and stones to the S.E. of the Black Castle is the site given for it on the O.S.

Lynchet Fields. Sheet 32. W.3.3; N.6.0. (centre of complex). O.D. 300'.

This group of ancient fields is situated in a little sloping valley between the E. base of Knockfennel and a little limestone hilllock. They are straddled across the boundary between the townlands of Knockfennel (Monasteranagh parish) and Lough Gur (Knockainy parish), and the slope on which they lie falls off gently to the lake edge. There are seven long narrow strips which are set at right angles to the direction of the valley slope. There is a "step down" on the down hill edge of each strip, thereby making the whole system into a series of terraces one above the other. A section taken in the direction of the valley slope would, therefore, have the appearance of the steps of a stair. On the Knockfennel side they are bounded by an ancient fence, and on the other, partly by natural rock faces and partly by an ancient fence. The last field at the foot of the valley finishes up at the old edge of the lake.

Militown (118).

Holy Well. Sheet 40. W.17.2; N.14.

Called Tubberclorina on the O.S. map. All devotion has ceased and there are no surviving traditions.

Patrickswell (504).

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 32. W.35.9; N.34.5. O.D. 230'.

A circular platform with a bank at its edge. It is surrounded by a continuous fosse and the entrance is not recognisable. The maximum height of the bank over the fosse bottom is

45. Windele MSS. Letters, XVI, 253.
46. Barry: J.E.S.A.I., XXXIII, (1903), 194.
47. Lynch: J.C.H.A.S., XIX, (1913), II.
5' and the overall diameter is 120'. In the N.W. quadrant of the interior there is a cluster of four flag-like standing stones, all of which are laminae split from a single parent flag by the roots of a bush growing beside them. The stones are 2' 6'' high.

Immediately to the S. of the circular structure there is a rectangular platform surrounded by a fosse which is only barely perceptible. It is separated from the circular monument by a distance of 15'. There is no bank and the entrance is not visible. It measures overall 120' E-W, by 90' N-S. Both are in low land on the bank of a stream.

Stone Circles. Sheet 32. Knockderk Hill.

There are four circles marked on the O.S. map on this hill. Three are on the W. base and one on the top near the highest point. In fact, they do not exist and it is doubtful if they ever did exist. The site on top of the hill shows some ancient field fences and a rather doubtful circular enclosure, but there is no trace of a stone circle. The W. base of the hill is strewn all over with large blocks of basaltic rock which have rolled down from higher up. If one selects suitable stones from among these and eliminates others, any number of circles can be formed. It must have been in this way that three circles came to be marked on the O.S. map.

Hut-Sites (?). Sheet 32. Exact location not known.

Lynch(48) mentions "extensive foundations . . . various square buildings and square enclosures . . ." These are said to have been about a mile from Knockderk hill. They could not be located.

Church. Sheet 32. W.31.8; N.31.9.

No trace remains but the site is marked by a graveyard. Nothing is known of it.

Holy Well. Sheet 32. W.31.5; N.31.7.

St. Patrick's Well on the O.S. map. It is dedicated to the Saint and gives its name to the townland. An elaborate ritual is still practised on St. Patrick's Day. Over the well is built a small rectangular stone structure above the entrance to which are the letters I.H.S. lightly incised upon a flat stone. Immediately to the N.W., there is a small pond about which a low wall has been built, and to the N.E. is a second pond. To the S.E. is a natural mound on top of which a tree grows. The mound is called St. Patrick's Bed, because the saint is supposed to have slept upon it. When the pilgrim comes to make rounds, he must first collect 9 small stones from the roadway near the well, and with these he keeps tally of his rounds. He must make 9 circuits of the well itself, stopping in front of it each time to say 5 Our Fathers, 5 Hail Marys and 5 Glorys. He now collects 5 stones and going on to the mound, makes five circuits of the tree saying the same prayers as before. He now returns to the well and takes a drink from each of the ponds. One "visit" is then complete, and usually several visits are made throughout the day. When the pilgrim is finally leaving, he fills a bottle with water, half from the well itself, the other half being made up from the two ponds. When he gets home he must take three sips of the water and the devotion is then complete.

The water is said to hold effective cures for all diseases and it is given to people who are sick throughout the year. The well is carefully kept. Inside the erection over it is a little altar on which are several effigies of the saint and on which vases of fresh flowers are put from time to time.


"On Knockderk there is a large seat formed out of the natural rock called Cathaoir Baelee and Chair Baelee . . .(49). It is shown on the O.S. map, and is merely a natural out cropping boulder in which there is a hollow roughly resembling a seat. It is now called the "Lady's Chair."

Rathany (713).

Earthwork. Type B. Sheet 40. W.65.8; N.4.8. O.D. 280'.

A circular platform with a bank at its edge, surrounded by a fosse. Outside the latter is an outer bank which remains for about half the circumference. The entrance is not recognisable. Overall diameter is 150'.

Earthwork, Type C. Sheet 40. W.32.5; N.12.7. O.D. 290'.

A flat topped mound around which there is a berm. There does not seem to have been a fosse. The maximum height is 10' and the overall diameter is 95'. It is called Rathanny on the O.S. map, but this name is now unknown in the locality.

Earthwork, Type C. Sheet 40. W.65.7; N.12.7. O.D. 250'.

A large circular mound with a bowl shaped top. Surrounding it is a fosse which is water-logged. Outside the latter is a narrow low bank which is broken in three places. There is a second fosse outside this, which is narrow and deep and also waterlogged. Next comes the middle bank which is considerably higher and wider than the inner one. There is one break in this. Outside it is the outer fosse which again is narrow but deep. Finally there is the outer bank, which, like the inner one, is narrower and lower than the middle one. It has large gaps at several points and much of it has disappeared at the S. and W. sides. The greatest height of the mound is 14' and the diameter of its top is 85'. The overall diameter of the whole structure is 360'. It is situated in low-land on the bank of the R. Camoge. To the N.E. of it are 5 ring-barrows—see below.

Earthwork and 5 Barrows. Sheet 40. W.66.5; N.12.4. O.D. 250'. Not on O.S. map.

The earthwork is a rectangular platform slightly raised over the field level and is surrounded by a shallow fosse. The N. end has been damaged in the building of a fence near by. It measures 86' by 80' overall.

Immediately outside the fosse on the S. side is a barrow consisting of a slight circular mound surrounded by a fosse. At two points outside the latter are slight traces of an outer bank. The overall diameter is 54'. West of this and near the S.W. corner of the rectangle is another exactly similar except in diameter, which, in this case, is 36'. There are 3 other exactly similar barrows in the same field.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 40. W.68.5; N.12.8. O.D. 280'.

A circular platform surrounded by a fosse. Outside the latter are traces of a bank. It is situated on the bank of a large drainage trench, in the making of which the E. half of the platform was entirely destroyed. The approx. overall diameter is 121', and the height about 3'. Outside the structure on the N. side is what appears to be a very low tumulus. It has no fosse and is 3' high and 18' in diameter.

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 40. W.61.8; N.26.7. O.D. 300'.

A circular platform surrounded by a fosse and outer bank. The latter is broken in three places. Outside it is a very slight fosse. The entrance is not recognisable. The platform is about 4' high and the overall diameter is 120'. To the S.E., and 6' from the outer edge of the fosse is a small low tumulus consisting of a slight mound surrounded by a fosse. It has no outer bank and its overall diameter is 60'.

Holy Well. Sheet 40. E.38.7; N.10.4.

Called Tober Goban on the O.S. map. It is said to be a holy well, but the patron saint is not known. All devotion to it has ceased for many years.

Church. Sheet 40. E.38.3; N.10.5.

No trace survives nor is there any sign of the graveyard which is said to have surrounded it. Westropp (50) says, "Rathanny in Any Manor, 1287 (Inq. of T. De Clare). Site, a burial ground."

Standing Stone. Sheet 40. W.59.8; N.5.6. O.D. 290'. Not on O.S.

A limestone pillar 5' 6" high and 1' 3" by 9" thick at the base. Its socket is packed up with small boulders.

FINDS FROM THE PARISH OF KNOCKAINY.

Baggotstown Townland.

Stone Axe. Sheet 40. Exact location not known.

Found in the N.E. of the townland half a mile from the W. end of Knockainy Hill. It is 81" long and has a max. with of 21". National Museum, Dublin. File: Baggotstown (24/10/34).

Ballynagallagh Townland.

Flint Flake. Sheet 32. W.15.8; N.32.4.


Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.


Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.


Stone Axe. Sheet 32. W.11.5; N.24.2.


Hammer Stone. Sheet 32. W.11.5; N.24.2.

This stone was found with the last axe described. It is of sandstone, and has a rounded end which is abraded from use. Length, 3½". Museum, University College, Cork. File—Ballynagallagh, 29/7/39.

Bronze Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A flat axe found on the S. shore of Lough Gur. It has a well developed and widely splayed cutting edge. Length 2½", max. width 1½". Nat. Museum, Dublin.—Register 1911/66.

Kilballyowen Townland.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location not known.


Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of igneous rock. The butt end is pitted all over as an aid to mounting. Length 7", width 2½". Nat. Museum, Dublin.—File, Kilballyowen, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Has been used as a whet-stone. It is 5" long by 2" wide. Nat. Museum, Dublin.—File, Kilballyowen, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Has been used as a hammer and the butt end is abraded from use in this way. Length 5", width 2½". Nat. Museum, Dublin.—File, Kilballyowen, 3/9/36.

Wet-stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A fragment of a stone axe—the portion near the cutting edge—which has been used as a whet-stone. Length 4", width 3½". Nat. Museum. Dublin.—File, Kilballyowen, 3/9/36.

2 Flint Blades. Sheet 32. W.23.0; N.40.0.

These are small unshaped objects with little secondary chipping, but the edges are serrated from use.

Thumb Scraper. Same location.

Small circular scraper with good secondary chipping.

Quartz Microlith. Same location.

Small flake with secondary chipping. O clear quartz crystal.
2 Fragments of pottery. Same location.

Thin badly fired ware. Surfaces frayed away. Fine dark paste without grits. Traces of ornament of linear arrangement of dots on one piece (Beaker?). The general texture and appearance of the other piece suggests food vessel. All these objects were found at a depth of 3” when fences were being made. Charcoal, flint flakes and quartz crystals were plentiful on the site. Museum, University College, Cork.

Knockainy West Townland.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Well polished slightly assymmetrical axe. Length 4½”, width 2”. Museum, University College, Cork.—File, Knockainy West, 18/11/40.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Well polished assymmetrical axe. Length 3¼”, width 1¾”. Museum, University College, Cork.—File, Knockainy West, 18/11/40.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.


Lough Gur Townland.

Hand Axe. Sheet 32. W.17.7; N.3.6.

A triangular shaped flake of porphyritic stone. The edges are roughly serrated in an effort at secondary chipping. Length 4”, width 2½”. Museum, University College, Cork.

The following 15 stone axes are in the National Museum, Kildare St. Dublin.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.


Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This is a fragment of the lower end of an axe found in Rusheen Bog. Length 3½”, width 2”. File, Rusheen Bog, Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of felspar porphyry. The edge has been re-sharpened. Length 6¼”, width 1¾”.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This axe has been used as a whet-stone. Length 4½”, width 2½”. Both of these were found in the “Red Bog.” File, Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This axe is of diorite. The butt end is abraded from use as a hammer and the cutting edge is completely gone. Length 6½”, width 2½”.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of a soft slate like stone. The sides are abraded and slightly flattened. Length 3¾”, width 2¼”.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of a carbonaceous slate-like chert, and is badly made from a nodule of the stone. Later efforts at polishing did not remove the original chipping. Length, 3½”, width 1¼”. File for these three axes—Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A large coarsely finished implement. Butt end broken. Length 6½”, width 4½”.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A fragment of a large axe. Coarsely finished and the butt end is gone. Length 5", width 3¼". File for these two axes—Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

The butt end and edges of this axe are flattened. The lower end is polished and the upper end is pitted all over for hafting. File—Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This is from the Day Collection. It is said to have been found on a crannog at Lough Gur. The butt end is broken off. Length 3¼", width 2¼". File—Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of carbonaceous slate, and is very small. Length 2", width 1¾". File—Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of a slate like stone which shows traces of iron. Length 4", width 2½". File—Ballynagallagh, 25/2/29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A very roughly finished axe. No attempt at polishing. Length 4¼", width 2½". File—Lough Gur, 28/2/32.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This axe is of a very thin slate like stone and it may have been intended for use as a chisel. Formerly in the Day collection. Length 3½", width 2¾". File—Lough Gur, 8/10/26.

The foregoing 15 stone axes are in the National Museum, Dublin.

Chert Arrowhead. Sheet 32. W.18.9; N.18.2.

A flake of black chert roughly shaped as an arrowhead but shows no secondary chipping. Found on the S.E. shore of Lough Gur during the making of a well. Length 3", width 1½". Now in the Hunt Collection.

Gold Mounted Bronze Spearhead. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This spearhead is said to have been found near Boin Crannog, which would mean that it came from Lough Gur townland. It is said to have been fished up from the bottom of the lake after the partial drainage of it subsequent to 1840. The object is 17" long and a little over 2" wide, and when found is said to have had about 18" of the original wooden haft in the socket. It is now in the Pitt-Rivers Museum in England. Pitt-Rivers describes it as follows: "Around the socket at the top and bottom are two very thin ferrules of gold, each 3/8" wide. Each ferrule is ornamented with three bands scored with from four to seven transverse lines, and separated from each other by two bands scored with incised longitudinal lines. The two ferrules are separated by a band about three sixteenth inches in width in which longitudinal lines of gold have been let into grooves in the bronze, leaving an intervening line between each of the gold lines"(51). There is a bog oak shaft in this spearhead now but Evans(32) says that he does not regard it as the original.

Leaf-Shaped Sword. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of bronze with a greenish brown patina. Hafting plate is slotted and has 6 rivet holes but part of it is missing. The point of the blade is missing and the edges are dinted. Length 21½", max. width 1½". Found in 1887 in Lough Gur during drainage operations. National Museum, Dublin. Register—1888/11.

Stone Cutter's Punch. Sheet 32. W.17.2; N.20.7.

"Found in the ruins of New Church a stone cutter's iron punch, an example of the tools of that trade as used in the reign of Elizabeth, which was presented to the Kilkenny Archaeological Society."(53)

52. Ancient Bronze Implements, 313, and figs. 379-80.

On a small fragment of a slate like stone are three moulds. Two of them are on one face and one on the other. The designs in all three are arrangements of concentric circles, but in one there are radial lines as well. It was found under the left-hand side of Bourchier's Castle. Nat. Museum, Dublin. File—Lough Gur, 25/2/'29.

Rush-Light Holder. Sheet 32. W.20.2; N. 18.3.

During the renovation of an old house at the S. side of the lake, a small baked clay rush-light holder was found in a wall cavity. It is hemispherical in shape, and the light stood in a conical boring in the centre of the rounded side. It is 2" in diameter at the base, and the depth of the boring is 1". Hunt Collection.

Patrickstown Townland.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of Andesite. It has been used in modern times as a wedge for splitting timber and is damaged. The butt-end is entirely gone. Length 4½", width 3".

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

Of syenite. It also has been used as a wedge and the butt-end is gone. Length 3½", width 3".


Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This axe has been used both as a whet-stone and as a wedge. The butt end is badly chipped and the sides are worn from use as a whet. Length 4½", width 2½". Nat. Museum, Dublin. File—Lough Gur, 25/2/'29.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

This axe is well polished and fairly well preserved though it has been used as a whet. Length 6½", width 2½".

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A small well preserved axe found at Knockderrk. Length 3½", width 1½".

Whet-Stone. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

A thin rectangle of stone well smoothed on all faces from use. Length 6", width 1½", thickness ½. Found at Knockderrk.

The last three objects are in the Nat Museum, Dublin. File—Knockderrk, 25/2/'29.

Bronze Axe. Sheet 32. W.27.8; N.39.9.

An extremely battered bronze axe. It has been used as a wedge and is completely disfigured. It may have been either a flat or a flanged axe. Found at the quarry on Knockderrk Hill. Museum, University College, Cork. File—Patrickstown, 12/8/'37.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. W.35.5; N.38.9.

A well made, slightly asymmetrical green stone axe. Found on a canal bank on the S.E. side of Knockderrk Hill and presumed to have been thrown up with spoil during clean-up. Butt-end slightly abraded as if from hammering. Length 5", width 2½". Museum, University College, Cork.

The only available information about all the following objects is that they are from Lough Gur. Even if they are from the lake itself, they may be from any one of four townlands, Lough Gur and Ballynagallagh (in Knockainy parish), and Knockfennel and Grange (in Monasteranenagh parish). The map reference in all cases is Sheet 32.

Stone Axe and Holed Hammer Stone.

"A stone cell and a splendid pierced hammer stone of black hornblende found in draining Lough Gur near Grange on the Estate of J. F. W. de Salis, by whom they were presented." (54)

23 Stone Axes.

"Three celts of hard dense greenstone, carrying a fine polish on the surface, all with well defined and sharp blades and varying in size and form. About 20 others forming a representative group both in size and form. One of these is almost a perfect square and has two sharp cutting edges." (55)

The following 11 axes are in the Nat. Museum, Dublin:

**Stone Axe.**

Some sedimentary rock (Joly). Length 9\(\frac{1}{2}\)", width 3\(\frac{3}{8}\)". File—Lough Gur, 25/2/29.

**Stone Axe.**

A small axe with a very rough surface. No effort at polishing. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)", width 2". File—Lough Gur, 18/4/54.

**Stone Axe.**

Of green stone. Well preserved oval cutting edge. Butt-end badly chipped. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)", with 2". Found in Lough Gur. Register—1892/5.

**Stone Axe.**

Of green stone. Well preserved, slightly curved cutting edge. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)", width 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Found in Lough Gur. Register—1892/6.

**Stone Axe.**

Cutting edge broken. Purchased at Lough Gur and no doubt found in the neighbourhood. Length 6\(\frac{1}{2}\)", width 3". Register—1915/45.

**Stone Axe.**

Oval cutting edge, butt-end broken. Length 4\(\frac{3}{8}\)", width 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Found at Lough Gur. Register—1917/8.

5 Stone Axes.

All found at Lough Gur. The lengths vary between 3\(\frac{3}{4}\)" and 5\(\frac{1}{2}\)" and the widths between 1\(\frac{3}{4}\)" and 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Register—1882/86.

The following 16 stone axes are in the City Museum, Limerick.

**Stone Axe.**

Partially polished and of soft black stone. May have been broken and repolished in modern times. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)", width 1\(\frac{1}{2}\". Cat. No. 49.

**Stone Axe.**

A small adze shaped axe flat on one side and convex on the other. Two cutting edges. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)", width 1\(\frac{1}{2}\". Cat. No. 25.

**Stone Axe.**

A large axe of close grained sandstone, well made and well preserved. Shows a slight mark of the haft. Length 13\(\frac{1}{2}\", width 3\(\frac{1}{2}\". Cat. No. 48.

**Stone Axe.**

A large axe of sandstone pocke[d all over the butt end as an aid to hafting. From Lough Gur. Length 9", width 3". Cat. No. 44.

**Stone Axe.**

A fairly large axe of green stone. Found at Lough Gur. Length 8\(\frac{1}{2}\", width 3". Cat. No. 45.

**Stone Axe.**

A green stone axe. There is a band of pocking around the body near the butt end to aid hafting. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\", width 2\(\frac{1}{2}\". Cat No. 21.

Stone Axe.

A large fragment of the lower part of an axe. Butt-end entirely gone. Found at Lough Gur. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)" width 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Cat. No. 30.

Stone Axe.

A polished axe of greyish coloured stone. Found at Lough Gur. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)" width 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Cat. No. 28.

Stone Axe.

A polished axe which is slightly asymmetrical. Length 4" width 2". Cat. No. 27.

Stone Axe.

A well polished green stone axe. Found at Lough Gur. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)" width 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Cat. No. 22.

5 Stone Axes.

All are from Lough Gur. The lengths vary between 3\(\frac{1}{2}\)" and 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)" and the widths between 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)" and 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Cat. Nos. 12, 19, 26, 29, and 31.

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Fig. 17.

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Stone Axe.

A small axe found in the bog near Lough Gur. Length 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)" width 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)". Cat. No. 24.

The following three objects are also in the City Museum, Limerick.

Dumb-bell Shaped Stone Object.

A small dumb-bell shaped stone object probably a hammer or a pestle. Both ends are abraded as if from use as a hammer. Length 3\(\frac{1}{2}\)"; diameters of globular ends 1\(\frac{3}{4}\)"; thickness of connecting narrow part 1\(\frac{1}{4}\)". Cat. No. 67. (Fig. 17, e).
Unfinished Perforated Hammer Stone.

A small oval stone with unfinished conical borings on each side. Length 3½", width 2½. Cat. No. 54. (Fig. 17, d).

Stone Pick.

A very roughly made green stone pick. One end is sharply pointed and the other blunt. Not polished. Length 8", max. width 2”. From Lough Gur. Cat No. 66. (Fig. 17 f).

19 Stone Axes.

All are from Lough Gur and all are in the Museum, University College, Cork. The lengths vary between 3" and 9" and the widths between 1½” and 3½”.

2 Stone Axes. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

“One is of basalt and measures 6” long by 4½” wide. The other is double-edged and is 10” long and 4” wide. Both were in the collection of R. Fogarty, Limerick.”(56)

Stone Axe.

A small axe of very hard black chert highly polished and has a very sharp edge. One side is almost flat, while the other is convex. The sides are flat giving an almost rectangular cross-section. Length 2½”, width 1½”, thickness ½”. Found near Lough Gur.

Stone Axe.

An axe of green stone with a smooth finish, though it is not polished. It is well preserved and has a sharp cutting edge. Length 4½”, width 2½”. Found near Lough Gur.

Stone Axe.

An axe of polished green stone, well preserved and has a sharp cutting edge. Length 4½”, width 2½”. Found near Lough Gur.

The last three objects are in the possession of Madame O’Grady, Kilballyowen House, Co. Limerick.

2 Arrowheads.

Two very small but well made objects. One is of black chert and is pressure flaked all over. The other is of flint similarly treated. Both are leaf-shaped but there is a trace of tang on the flint one. Lengths 1½” and 1¼”. Found at Lough Gur. Hunt Collection.

Stone Axe.

A well preserved axe found in the vicinity of Lough Gur. Length 4½”, width 2½”. Hunt Collection.

Terra-Cotta Object.

“A terra-cotta object has been given by J. F. W. de Salis, which was found in Lough Gur.”(57) No description is available.

Quern Stone.

“The under part of a dish shaped quern of hard sandstone grit. Found in the water near the shore of Lough Gur.”(58)

2 Whet-Stones.

One is a small slate like stone and has been used on one face only. The other is a water-rolled pebble and is used on all faces. Museum, University College, Cork.

Stone Discs.

Two small stone discs 3½” in diameter and ½” in thickness. One is of red- and the other of carboniferous sandstone. Found at Lough Gur. Museum, University College, Cork.

56. J.R.S.A.I., XXII, (1892), 42.
Decorated Whet-Stone.

Spherical Stone.
A small well made stone sphere 2" in diameter. Found near Lough Gur. Limerick Museum, Cat. No. 69.

Stone Mould for Spear Heads.
"A molye of a stone mould for casting spear heads of various sizes, and also pointed objects, possibly though not probably arrowheads, was found at Lough Gur and is now in the British Museum. It is a four sided prism 6½" long, and 2½" broad at one end, and 1¾" at the other. A second similar prism would give four perfect moulds slightly varying in form, but in each case with side loops. These loops are as usual semi-circular in the mould. There is one special feature in this mould, which is that at the base of the blade there is a transverse notch in the stone, evidently destined to receive a small pin which would serve to keep the clay core for the socket in its proper position. There is a similar notch in one of the smaller moulds for the pointed objects."(69)

Bone or Ivory Ring.
A small bone or ivory ring, the section of the material of which is circular. Perforations through it seem to indicate that it was a link in a girdle made from similar rings which were strung together by means of strings passing through the perforations. From Lough Gur. Hunt Collection.

Bone Scoop and 16 Bone Points.
The scoop is of the usual type made from a long bone from which a thin sliver has been removed. The points are of various sizes and varying quality of manufacture. All are from Lough Gur. Museum, University College, Cork.

Bone Pins.
"A number of bone pins, some large enough to be used as weapons of offence or as daggers."(60) All from Lough Gur.

Bone Tubes.

7 Stone Axes.
All found near Lough Gur. The lengths vary between 2½" and 10". Begley Collection.

12 Stone Axes and 1 Whet-Stone.
Five of the axes are complete and the remaining two are represented by fragments. The whet is a water-rolled pebble with a pin groove. From Lough Gur. Nat. Museum, Dublin. File—Lough Gur, 14/7/26.

Halberd.

Copper Axe.
A flat axe with slightly splayed ends to the cutting edge. The section is thick and the axe is very heavy. Nat. Museum, Dublin. File—Lough Gur, 14/7/26.

Flanged Axe.
Has well developed flanges and widely splayed ends to the cutting edge, but there is only a very slight stop-ridge. Nat. Museum, Dublin. File—Lough Gur, 14/7/26.

61. O Riordáin: Archaeologia, LXXXVI, 195 & fig. 49, No. 91.
Bronze Axe.


Bronze Dagger.

A short blade with well developed mid rib. The edges are sharp and nearly parallel. Two U-shaped hollows separate the blade from a wide irregularly shaped tang. Length 9\(^{1/2}\)"., max. width 3\(^{1/2}\)". Nat. Museum, Dublin. File—Lough Gur, 19/4/34. Day Sale No. 293.

Bronze Shield.

This is the well known shield in the National Museum, Dublin. It is said to have been found in a bog between Ballynamona and Herbertstown (62). This, however, does not seem to be the case. The descendants of the finder are still living near Lough Gur and they insist that it was found in the marsh to the E. of Knockadoon Hill at the time of the partial drainage of this area. The tradition of its finding in this area remains strong in the whole neighbourhood, and the exact find spot is still pointed out. This would mean that the object is from Lough Gur townland.

The shield is not quite circular, the max. diameter being 28" and the min. being 27\(^{1/2}\)". Six beaten-out concentric ribs alternate with rows of small bosses. There is a patch of bronze sweated on over an irregular hole, the patch being of the same bronze as the shield itself. The handle is of sheet bronze bent into the form of a tube. It is riveted to the shield and the heads of the rivets where they protrude on the front form two of the small bosses on the innermost circle. The umbo projects 11" beyond the base and the convexity of the shield gives it a projection of 3" beyond the edge of the shield. The bronze is turned inwards so as to form a tube-like hollow round the extreme edge. Portions of a substance strongly resembling decayed leather remain in the hollows at the back, suggesting that the whole was originally backed up with strong leather. There are two loops on the back, to which were fixed cords for slinging it on the shoulder when not in use. (63)


"Three bronze ring pins or brooches, personal ornaments of the 12th century, found in the lake at Lough Gur." Day Collection Nos. 721, 722 & 723 (64). No further description is available.

Socketed Spear Head.

"The socket is without rivet holes or side loops. The blade is triangular and decorated with a series of minutely punched markings, a type rarely met with."

Bronze Spear Head.

"A portion of what if perfect would have been a remarkable spearhead, with semi-oval orifices and two circular openings in the blade."

Bronze Rapier.

"Bronze rapier blade with raised mid-rib and hollows at the base for attachment to the handle."

The descriptions given of the last three objects are quoted from Day (see footnote 64), to whose collection they belonged. No other descriptions are now available. The same applies to the following five objects.

Socketed Axe.

"Looped socketed axe of bronze, 2\(^{1/2}\)" long. Day Coll., No. 122a.

Ornamented Axe.

"This hatchet of the flat wide bladed variety is remarkable in having deeply cut engraved lines parallel with the blade and forming a triangle in the centre. These lines are not done in the casting but after the axe left the mould and are most uncommon." Day Coll. No. 28.

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63. There is a similar shield in the Museum of Edinburgh. See _J.E.S.A.I.,_ XIV, (1878), 478.
Palstave.

"Of the winged variety with a central high mid-ridge, beneath which is a half circular double moulding on the face of the blade that encloses a space under the stop-ridge." Day Coll. No. 60.

Palstave.

"A palstave in which the mid-ridge or stop is formed by the thickening of the blade and the side flanges are hammered over, so as to form a half socket for the reception of the handle." Day Coll. No. 62.

Palstave.

"This resembles No. 62 (the last described) but has a side loop and a more re-curved blade. The socket part is more fully covered by the flanged sides and forms almost a pocket for the handle." Day Coll. No. 80.

The following 10 objects are in the Limerick Museum.

Bronze Spear Head.

Has a decorated blade and two raised ribs around the end of the socket. There are two rivet holes which are not opposite each other. The whole blade is covered with narrow engraved lines which run into each other at very acute angles showing no definite pattern. Found at Lough Gur. Cat. No. 148.

Bronze Spear Head.

Has two rivet holes in the socket. Was broken when found but has been mended in recent times. Found in Carnane Bog in 1897. Length 8". Cat. No. 147.

Spear Head.

Has a very narrow blade and the socket has two loops. Length 4½". Cat. No. 135.

Socketed Axe.

This axe has a socket of square section around the mouth of which are two cast fillets by way of decoration. Length 3½". Found in Lough Gur. Cat. No. 116.

Flat Axe.

No flange or stop-rib. Across the upper part of the axe is a straight line below which there is a triangle the apex of which is downwards. Parallel with the cutting edge and a little distance above it are two concentric arcs of continuous lines of hyphens. All the ornament is incised. Length 5½". Cat. No. 83.

Flanged Axe.

Very slight flanges. Length 6½". Found at Lough Gur. Cat. No. 82.

Palstave.

The flanges and stops on each side of the septum have developed into pockets. Below them are two decorative fillets. There is a loop on one side. Length 5½". Found at Lough Gur. Cat. No. 81.

Palstave.

Has well developed flanges but the stop-rib has not become joined with them. The centres of the sides are decorated with 28 raised lines inside a rectangular frame. Around the edges of the frames and the edges of the flanges are lines of punctured dots. On the upper part of the blade are (one on each side) raised ribs connecting the ends of the flanges. Below these is one row of punctured dots on each side. Length 6½". Cat. No. 90.

Socketed Looped Spear Head.

A long narrow spearhead with a pronounced mid rib. It has two loops midway on the socket. Length 9½". Cat. No. 142.

Leaf-shaped Sword.

Overall length 24½". The blade was damaged by the finder in an attempt to clean it. There are no notches at the end of the blade. The hafting plate has four rivet holes. Found near Holy Cross. Cat. No. 125.
The following 10 objects are in the Hunt Collection.

**Bronze Axe.**

A large flat axe the cutting edge of which is somewhat battered, but is fairly widely splayed. The section is slightly thick towards the centre and is thinner towards the edges which have bevels on both faces. Dark green patina. Length 7”.

**Palstave.**

Well developed stop-ridges and flanges. There is a “rain-drop” decoration between the flanges but this may have been done as an aid to hafting. Length 4”. Hunt Cat. No. 29.

**Palstave.**

Well developed flanges but the stop-rib is slight. Cutting edge is battered. Length 5½”. Hunt Cat. No. 19.

**Decorated Axe.**

Well developed flanges but the stop is slight. Below the stop there is a raised rib running vertically down the blade and on each side of this there are concentric arcs scribed on the surface. On the outer faces of the flanges there is an ornament of “rope moulding.” Length 5¼”. Hunt Collection.

**Spear Head.**

Of a narrow tapering form with a mid rib to the blade and socket. Ornamented with lateral fillets running from the point of the blade to the rivet hole. Length 5”. Originally in the Day Collection. Hunt Cat. No. 128.

**Spear Head.**

A small spear head with a leaf shaped blade. It has a trumpet mouthed socket in which is a rivet hole. Length 4”. Hunt Cat., No. 127.

**Spear Head.**

A small spear head with a leaf-shaped blade which has a midrib. The socket has two small loops midway along it. Length 4½”. Hunt Cat. No. 108.

**Spear Head.**

Has a tapering blade and the section of the socket is slightly diamond shaped. It has one rivet hole. Length 11”. Hunt Cat., No. 139.

**Spear Head.**

This has a slightly ogee leaf-shaped blade. The socket is long and has a series of elaborate mouldings near the open end. Length 8½”. Hunt Cat., No. 139.

**Ring Pin.**

A simple straight pin with a loose ring having a sort of serrated ornament. Length 6”. Hunt Cat., No. 162.

**Ornamented Flanged Axe.**

A very well preserved implement. It has a widely splayed cutting edge which shows no signs of use. The flanges are low and there is no stop-rib in the true sense, but its place is taken by a very slightly raised rib primarily intended as part of the ornament. Below this are two other ribs, equally spaced and equally slight. At the lower ends of the flanges there are three similar ribs. Between these two sets are nine vertical ribs. Between the last of these and the flange on each side are short transverse lines. The outside faces of the flanges have an ornament of “rope moulding.” The axe was found near Lough Gur. Length 5½” (Fig. 16, c). On loan to the Museum, University College, Cork.

**Flanged Axe.**

Flanges are well developed but the stop-rib is slight. There is a raised curved line connecting the ends of the flanges. The outer faces of the latter have bevelled edges. Length 4¼”. Found near Lough Gur. Begley Collection.
Palstave.

Has coalesced flanges and stop-rib. There is a vertical re-inforcing rib running down the centre of the blade under the centre of the stop. The butt-end is badly battered. Length 4½". Found at Lough Gur. In the possession of John Count de Salis, 16, Priory Walk, Drayton Gardens, London, S.W.10. Model of it in Museum, University College, Cork.

Penannular Pin.

The ends of the penannular ring carry panels of ornament consisting of interlacements in raised lines. Length of pin 4", overall diameter of ring 1½". Found at Lough Gur. In the possession of John Count de Salis as above. Model of it in the Museum, University College, Cork.

2 Bronze Pins.

Straight pins with conical heads which are scored with radial lines and resemble a drillman’s burr. Lengths 2½". Found at Lough Gur. In the possession of John Count de Salis as above. Models of them in the Museum, University College, Cork.

Bronze Spear Butt.

"There is a type I spear in the National Museum, Dublin, which is said to have been found at Lough Gur." (65)

Iron Sword.

"A curious iron sword, peculiar in its handle and guard, which was found at Lough Gur, and presented to the museum by J. W. F. de Salis." (66). No further description is available.

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MONASTERANENAGH PARISH (D1, D2, & D3).

There are three detached portions of this parish within Small County, and all three are in the N.W. expansion of the barony. One portion lies just W. of Lough Gur and includes part of the lake itself. In all three portions the land lies between 150' and 531' O.D., but except for Knockfenner Hill and Grange Hill, the latter rising to 745' and the former to 531', the greater part of it lies around the 200' mark. There are 8 townlands and the total area is 4428 acres.

Camas North (707).


No trace survives and the site is not known. Westropp (67) says that in 1583 T. and J. Browne held the castle at the time of their joining the rebellion of the Sagan Earl of Desmond. The Down Survey shows it as being in Glenogra in 1655. It was afterwards held by the Bevans whose descendants are still living in the neighbourhood.

Church. Sheet 31. E.15.0; N. 13.3.

No trace of the building remains but the site is marked by a graveyard still in use. Westropp (68) says that it was dedicated to St. Senan in 1410. It and some other church lands were granted to Monasterenanagh Abbey in 1185.

Grange (1392).

Church. Sheet 32. W.8.1; N.11.0.

The present Catholic church on this site is comparatively modern structure, and the graveyard which is attached has many tombstones dating to the 18th century. There is now no trace of an older building. Westropp (69) says the site was granted to Monasterenanagh Abbey in 1185.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.11.4; N.18.5. O.D. 265'.

"About 180 yards S.E. of the standing stone called Cloughavilla and in the corner of the field in which it stands, there was, a great many years ago, some kind of stone structure. An old man at Lough Gur said he took stones from it and that it was shaped like a grave."(70) It is marked on the O.S. map Giant's Grave, site of. No trace survives.

Megalith. Sheet 32. W.7.7; N.17.5. O.D. 265'.

"At a distance of 100 yards due S. of the rath (Stone circle E, see below) there formerly stood a cromlech. It was destroyed many years ago . . . . The tops of the supporting stones approached each other closely from the two sides . . . . A series of flags led northwards from it to the circle."(71) No trace survives.

Stone Circle. Sheet 32. W.8.0; N.17.0. O.D. 265'

Circle B on Windle's list.(72) It has been excavated.(73) It consists of a circular earthen bank against the inner face of which is a circle of contiguous stones: Many of them project considerably over the top of the bank. The latter is 30' in width and on the inside is about 4' high. It slopes gradually outward till it fades into the surrounding ground. The interior is an open level space 2' to 2' 6" higher than the field outside. The entrance is on the E. side and consists of a passage through the bank each side of which is faced with stone flags. Its floor rises gradually from the outer level to that of the interior. The largest stone in the circle is on the N.E. side and on the O.S. map is called Ronnack Croim Duibh. The internal diameter of the circle varies between 151' and 155'.

Excavation showed that the difference in level between the outside and the interior was due to a deliberate filling up, and not as Windle thought, to the removal of material

69. See foot note 68.
71. Lynch : See foot note 70.
73. Under the direction of Dr. S. P. O Riordáin.
from the field outside. The finds included a considerable quantity of pottery among which were sherds of neolithic, food vessel and beaker wares. On the evidence of the beaker sherds it was possible to date the monument to about 1700 B.C. The purpose of this imposing circle was undoubtedly ritualistic, though the exact nature of the ceremonies carried on there remains unknown.

**Stone Circle. Sheet 32. W.8.2; N.16.0. O.D. 260°**

A circle consisting of free standing low boulders with wide spaces between and having no embankment of any kind. The overall diameter varies between 53' and 57' and there are 15 stones. It is circle C on Windle's list (74) and lies a little to the N. of circle B. The stones are of volcanic breccia and are 3' to 4' high. At the S.W. side there is a gap wider than that occurring elsewhere and this may be the entrance, though it is also possible that a stone may have been removed from here, for Lynch (75), writing in 1885, says that the circle consisted of 18 stones.

**Stone Circle. Sheet 32. W.7.8; N.16.5.**

To the N. of Circle B and between it and circle C was another of large dimensions which is lettered D on Windle’s list. Only one short arc of 9 stones now remains. They are free standing low boulders. At the time that Windle surveyed it there were 12 stones remaining, and he calculated that when complete its diameter was 225'. FitzGerald and M'Gregor (76) say that there were 72 stones and that the diameter was 150'. Dowd (77) made the diam. 160' and said there were 80 stones. Lenihan says it has 58 stones and made the diam. 190'. It is not now possible to reconstruct the diam. with any degree of accuracy.

**Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.8.5; N.13.1. O.D. 264°.**

A large boulder of volcanic breccia measuring 5' high, 8' long and 4' thick. Called Clough-a-Bhile on the O.S. map, and it lies to the S. of Circle B.

**Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.9.4; N.14.3. O.D. 260°.**

A large stone called the Pillar on the O.S. map. It is of volcanic breccia and is 10' 2" high, 6' 9" wide, and 3' 5" thick. It lies to the N.E. of Circle B.

**Standing Stone. Sheet 32. Location unknown.**

Croker (78) says that at a distance of 160 yards from Circle C there was a single standing stone. It was 5' high, 6' 6" wide and 4' thick. It has now disappeared.

**Crannog. Sheet 32. W.10.7; N.11.0. O.D. 250°.**

This crannog, called Crock Island on the O.S. map, is now left high and dry. It was situated in a narrow neck of water which ran out from the lake between the S.W. extremity of Knockfennel and the N. end of the hill called Ardaghlooda. When the lake was partially drained this area became dry land. The crannog seems to have been constructed on the same principle as Bolin Crannog on the other side of the lake. Large stones were dropped into the water in the form of a circle and when these reached the surface, the centre of the ring was filled up with layers of brush-wood and earth. The structure has a diameter of 90' and its top is 6' 6" above the surrounding land. Heavily overgrown with trees and shrubs.

**Fort. Sheet 23. W.9.6; N.58.5. O.D. 300°.**

The first edition of the O.S. map shows a fort at this location but no trace of it now survives. Continued excavation in a nearby sand-pit has caused its destruction. It is not shown on the later editions of the map.

**Fort. Sheet 23. W.1.0; N.57.6. O.D. 350°.**

The first edition of the O.S. map shows a fort at this location, but no trace of it now survives. It does not appear on the recent editions of the map.

**Fort (?) Sheet 32. W.10.8; N.13.2. O.D. 346°.**

A doubtful site. There is a very rough circle indicated by a few scattered stones and small moss-grown mounds on the top of the hill of Ardaghlooda. The same hillock is divided

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74. See footnote 72.
76. Hist. of Limerick, I, 298.
77. The County of Limerick, 76.
up by a system of ancient fences, and this structure is in an angle formed by two of them. Its max. diam. is 140'.

**Earthwork, Type A.** Sheet 23. W.12.3; N.56.9. O.D. 250'.

A circular platform surrounded by a fosse. It is possible that there may have been a bank on its edge but indications are uncertain. On the W. side there is a break in the edge of the platform and this appears to have been the entrance. The height over the field level is 3' and overall diameter is 120'.

In the S.E. quadrant of the platform is a small structure delineated by a slight circular bank. This may be a hut foundation or a ring-barrow. The overall diameter is 20'. The whole monument is situated in a low-land marsh meadow.

**Natural Cave.** Sheet 23. W.0.5; N.574. O.D. 300'.

A small cave or rock shelter on the W. side of Grange Hill. The front is completely open to the W. and inside, it narrows from both sides and the roof slopes downward, so that at the back it is quite small. At the front the roof is 9' high, dropping to 6' at the back. The width at the front is 20' narrowing to 7' at the back, and the depth from front to back is 19'. The interior seems to be permanently water-logged from the dripping of the roof. Many stone axes have been found in and around this cave. It is not on the O.S. map.

**Knockfennel (235).**

**Stone Circle.** Sheet 32. W.13.2; N.10.7. O.D. 255'.

This is circle T on Windle's list. If this monument were intended as a stone circle it is a very poor one. It is oval in shape, the larger diameter being 44' and the smaller 30'. The stones are large low boulders, none of them more than 2' 6" high. There are large spaces between each pair and there is no supporting bank of any kind. It is situated on a piece of ground at the S.W. base of Knockfennel Hill.

**Arc of Circle.** Sheet 32. W.13.9; N.10.7. O.D. 250'.

An arc of 8 fairly large stones situated close to the edge of the lake at the S.W. base of Knockfennel Hill. If the arc were completed to form a circle its diam. would be 50' approx. Situated 21' due N. of the W. end of the arc is an earthen fort, so that if the arc were complete and still in existence at the time of the building of the fort, a large part of the circle would be covered by it. There is no evidence that this is so and it is quite possible that the arc is a chance formation of stones.

**Stone Circle (?)**. Sheet 32. W.17.5; N.8.8. O.D. 250'.

On the map is shown an arc of stones and marked *Stone Circle*, lying on the shore of the lake at the base of Knockfennel. If this ever existed, it is no longer traceable. There are some short lengths of ancient fence at this point and some of them may have been mistaken for a circle.

**Ring Barrow.** Sheet 32. W.16.8; N.6.5. O.D. 531'.

A continuous rubble stone kerb 50' in overall diameter delineates this monument, which is situated on the highest point of Knockfennel. Its centre is a hollow bowl shape. It was excavated but the results were inconclusive, the only finds being pockets of cremated bone at various points round the kerb. There was no dating evidence. The excavation was directed by Dr. S. P. O Riordain.

**Stone Fort.** Sheet 32. W.13.7; N.6.3. O.D. 430'.

Situated on the S.W. peak of Knockfennel Hill. It is now very collapsed and it is only possible to trace the rampart at a few points of the circumference. It is oval on plan and the surface inside is very rough and uneven with much rock out-croppings everywhere. It measures 128' E-W and 100' N-S. FitzGerald (79) says that the part of the rampart surviving when he saw it was built of stones nearly 3' every way. It is in the centre of an extensive system of ancient field fences which run all over the hill. These were also noticed by Fitz-Gerald, who made them sound much more imposing than they really are. He described them as part of the defences of the fort. His description of them was ridiculed by O'Donovan in the O.S. Letters, but the latter does not seem to have noticed them at all.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 32. W.13.8; N.10.7. O.D. 280'.

This is very roughly D-shaped on plan. The E. side is almost straight while the W. is circular. It is a platform on the edge of which there is a bank. The latter is very slight and is mainly on the N. side. The fort is partly carved out of the hill slope, which is steep on the N. side of it and it is only on this side that a fosse occurs. On the S. there is none as here the ground falls away from the monument and a certain amount of building up had to be done to make the structure approximately level, though it still has a considerable slope to the S. The entrance is not recognisable. It is 12' high on the S. side and the max. diam. is 81'. The fort is the central feature of a system of ancient fences which cover the lower slopes of a hill on this side. These fences are mainly earthen and among them are discernible a number of small enclosures or huts. On the S.E. side of it is the arc of stones described above.


A limestone pillar of regular shape, 5' high by 1' 4" by 1' 3''.

Standing Stone. Sheet 32. W.12.9; N.4.2. O.D. 330'.

A well shaped slab of cherty limestone, 6' 6" high by 2' 3" by 6".

2 Hut Sites. Sheet 32. W.15.3; N.7.7. O.D. 429'.

These huts are small cirque-like hollows on a slope of Knockfennel. One is semi-circular and the other sub-rectangular. Both are open on the W. while the other sides consist of natural rock mostly. The latter has been hollowed out where it was high at the back and sides, and in one case some rough walling remains around the edge of the cirque. The diameter of one is 22' while the other measures 16' by 15'. The depth of the rock cutting is about 3'. Immediately behind each is an ancient fence.

Earthwork, Type A, and 3 Ringbarrows. Sheet 32. W.13.0; S.0.5. O.D. 250'. Not on O.S. map.

The earthwork is a very low rectangular platform surrounded by a very shallow fosse. The entrance is not recognisable. It measures overall 75' N-S. by 45' E-W. At its S. end and lying side by side are two barrows, one oval and the other circular. These are low mounds surrounded by shallow fosses which are joined into that of the rectangle. The oval barrow is 45' N-S by 23' E-W, while the other is 24' in diameter. The third one, also 24' in diameter, lies to the south of the oval barrow, both fosses being conjoined. The monuments are situated just beyond the edge of an extensive marsh.

Natural Cave. Sheet 32. W.17.5; N.6.7. O.D. 400'.

A small natural cave little more than a rock crevice on the E. side of Knockfennel, and called the Red Cellar on the O.S. map. It has been excavated and was found to contain bones of bear, elk, arctic lemming, etc. There were no associated finds.

Rathmore North (719).

Castle. Sheet 32. W.37.9; N.8.5.

A single tower about 75' high measuring 30' 6" by 36' 4" on the outside at the base. The walls are 6' 9" thick. It is built in two sections, the axis of the vaults of the one being at right angles to those of the other. The stairs to the first floor was a straight flight, but from here a spiral, winding from left to right, gave access to the other floors. On the N. side of the castle there was a projecting building which rose to the height of the roof of the first floor. The roof of this annex appears to have had an outer pitched covering under which was an almost semi-circular vault. There were parapet walls around the edge and a door from the stairs gave access to the wall walk. Lewis(80) says that it was built by the Earl of Desmond in 1306 on the site of an older Danish fortress. It is very doubtful if the present ruin dates from so early a time, nor is there any sign of an earlier fortress, Danish or otherwise, on the site. In 1597 it was held by the Irish and taken by Malbhie after the third battle of Monasteranenagh. In 1588 it is described as "a large castle, in parts ruinous, with a barbacan ruined on the N., and a courtyard enclosed with a stone wall in great decay. There are in the same castle diverse necessary places or bedrooms, strongly built for defence, with an iron door."(81). In 1599 it was surrendered to Carew by the

followers of the Sugan Earl. In 1615 James Casey settled it on T. Casey, who in 1637, settled it on his daughters. They held it and a mill in 1655. Sir Drury Wray next owned it and it was forfeited and sold in 1703.

**Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 31. W.51.8; N.8.1. O.D. 210'.**

A platform on the edge of which there is a bank. It is surrounded by a fosse. The entrance is on the E. side where a causeway leads across the fosse. The bank is very slight and the W. side of the monument is almost obliterated. The overall diameter is 325'.

**Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 31. W.44.1; N.2.0 O.D. 205'.**

A circular platform on the edge of which there is a bank. It is surrounded by a fosse. The entrance is on the E. side where the fosse is causewayed opposite a break in the bank. The overall diameter is 100'.

**Ring-Barrow. Sheet 31. W.47.0; N.1.7. O.D. 205'.**

This consists of a low bank inside which there is a fosse, while the centre is occupied by a low mound. The bank and fosse are continuous on the E. S. and N. sides, but on the W. a modern fence has been built over them. The overall diameter is 90' and the maximum height of the mound is 8'.

**Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 31. W.45.8; N.3.2. O.D. 234'.**

An almost circular platform which has not got a fosse. It is considerably higher at the S. side than at the N. On the E. edge of the platform is a large limestone flag, which may have been standing erect at one time. A former land-owner decided to use it as a gate post and bored a small hole through the stone near one end. When the flag was moved bones were found below it and it was then decided to return it to its original position. Local tradition holds that it was a burial ground.

**Earthwork. Sheet 31. W.46.4; N.6.7. O.D. 210'.**

This is a circular earthen bank inside which there is a fosse. The central open space is raised about 1' 6" over the fosse bottom and is level with the field outside. The entrance is on the E. side where the fosse is interrupted and there is a gap in the bank. The latter is about 5' high and the fosse is 10' wide. The overall diameter is 155' (82).

**Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 31. W.45.5; N.9.9. O.D. 190'.**

A circular earthen platform surrounded by a fosse. There is no trace of a bank. The entrance is on the E. side where the fosse is interrupted and there is a ramp leading to the platform. The overall diameter is 120'.

**Elongated Tumulus. Sheet 31. W.37.7; N.9.5. O.D. 206'.**

A small elongated mound not quite 3' high. Its long axis runs N-S and is 23' long, while the width is 15'. There is no fosse. Local tradition holds that it is a burial ground.

**Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 31. W.31.3; N.9.5. O.D. 140'.**

A circular earthen platform surrounded by a fosse. There is no trace of a bank. On the W. side the monument has remained fairly well preserved, but elsewhere it has been partially levelled. The entrance is not recognisable. The overall diameter is 180'.

**Fort. Sheet 31. W.39.5; N.15.0. O.D. 150'.**

Situated about 1 mile to the E. of the Abbey of Monasteranenagh. It is a rectangular structure measuring 125' by 100' approximately. It is so densely overgrown as to be quite impenetrable, and hence accurate measurements are impossible. It seems to consist of an earthen bank surrounded by a fosse.

**Standing Stone. Sheet 31. W.33.9; N.14.5. O.D. 130'. Not on O.S. map.**

A rough limestone flag, height 4', width 4' 6", thickness 2' 6". It stands just outside the fosse of the rectangular earthwork just described and at the N.E. corner.

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82. See Part I. of this paper in *N. Munst. Ant. Jour.*, III, (1942), 90.
Stone Fort. Sheet 31. W.43.8; N.16.3 O.D. 160'.

A simple stone fort which did not have a fosse. It is now very badly collapsed and much of the stone has been removed. At one point on the S. side some of the facing stones remain. The entrance is not recognisable. The overall diameter is 180'.

There are two other townlands in this parish which contain no antiquities. They are Carrigeen(306), and Powerfield(30).

FINDS FROM THE PARISH OF MONASTERANENAGH.

Grange Townland.

The following three stone axes are some of those found in the cave described above.

**Stone Axe.** Sheet 23. W.0.5; N.57.4.

This is a large axe of green dioritic stone the surface of which is smooth for the most part, but as an aid to hafting there is some pocking near the butt-end. Length 10½", width 3½". In the private possession of Miss Dooley, Grange, Co. Limerick.

**Stone Axe.** Sheet 23. Same location as for above.


**Stone Axe.** Sheet 22. E.1.2; S.3.4.

Of black shaley limestone and is neither well made nor well preserved. Some of the original surface of the nodule from which it was made has not been ground away. It was found in the same field as the cave above described. Length 3⅓", width 2⅛". Now in the Boys' National School, Grange, Co. Limerick.

**Stone Axe.** Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.


**Stone Axe.** Sheet 23. W.4.9; N.50.4.

Of greenish metamorphosed shale. The surface is smooth but it is not polished. The butt-end is gone. Length 3", width 2⅛". Now kept at the Boys' National School, Grange, Co. Limerick.

**Stone Axe.** Sheet 32. W.3.8; N.0.8.

A small well made axe. Some of the preliminary chipping has not been removed by the subsequent polishing. The stone has the appearance of having been burnt. Length 3⅜", width 1⅜". Museum, University College, Cork. File—Grange, 16/9/37.

Knockfennel Townland.

2 Bronze Daggers. Sheet 32. Exact location unknown.

These were found at the N. side of the lake and it is probable that they belong in this townland. The blades of both are thick along the centre though there is no definite mid-rib. One has two rivet holes inside the edge of a rounded hafting plate. The other has two hollows separating the hafting plate from the blade. Both are about 5" long. Limerick Museum, Cat. Nos. 118 and 121. (Fig. 18 a & b).

TULLYBRACKY PARISH (F).

Only a portion of this parish lies within the barony. It is situated in the S.E. of the N.W. expansion. On the W. and N. it is bounded by the parish of Glenogra; on the N.E. and S.W. is one portion of the parish of Monasteranenagh. The land lies between 170' and 220'. It is therefore very flat and some of it is extremely marshy. It contains three townlands and covers an area of 1275 acres.

Boherageela (300).

Fort. Sheet 31. W.63.9; N.27.8. O.D. 200'.

This is a circular earthen bank inside which there is a fossa. The monument has been levelled at several points and it is not possible to determine the position of the entrance.
The interior is level with the field outside. The overall diameter is 215' and monument is situated in good rich low-land.

Enclosure. Sheet 31. W.60.0; N.31.4. O.D. 185'.

This structure is marked Entrenchment on the O.S. map. It consists of two conjoined sub-rectangular enclosures which are bounded only by fossees, which vary between 15' and 30' in width and are about 5' deep. A common fosse separates the two portions, and if at any time there were banks, no trace of them has survived. The long axis runs N.E.-S.W. and measures 475' overall. Both portions of the monument are 270' wide. The entrance is not recognisable. It is situated in poor low-land.

Crean (987).

Earthwork, Type C. Sheet 31. E.31.1; N.34.7. O.D. 205'.

A circular flat-topped mound surrounded by a deep wide fosse. The mound is in places 12' high, and the fosse is 45' wide for most of its circumference. The overall diameter is 240' Called Lissdaffnacrean on the O.S. map.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 31. W.54.4; N.43.5. O.D. 210'.

A circular platform on the edge of which is a bank. A fosse surrounds the whole. The entrance is on the E. side, where a causeway leads to a break in the bank. The overall diameter is 120'.

Grange (276).

Rock Knoll. Sheet 32. W.4.0; N.15.6.

This knoll is marked Cathair Chinn Chon on the O.S. map. Lynch says(84) that about 1 mile to the W. of Lough Gur there is a stone fort which has been identified as Cathair Chinn Chon, one of the seats of the King of Cashel in Munster. This place he says was near Rockbarton. In another work(85) he says that the place is now called Caherguillamore. Nothing is now visible on the rock except some slight remains of a castle.


This is the ruin which stands on the rock knoll called Cathair Chinn Chon on the O.S. map. Only some fragments of the foundations are visible, but from them it would appear that the castle measured some 40' by 30', and that the walls were about 6' 6" thick.

Stone Circle. Sheet 32. W.6.4; N.16.0.

This is marked Stone Circle (site of) on the O.S. map. No trace survives and the site is marked by a shallow depression in the field which seems a natural hollow, and makes it appear probable that a circle never existed here.

Megalith (J'). Sheet 32. W.6.7; N.16.2. O.D. 260'.

This is marked Stone Avenue on the O.S. map, but it is unlikely that it ever was such. It consists of 17 free-standing stones, 12 of which are in a straight line. Four others are in another line almost parallel to the first and separated from it by a distance of 15'. The last stone lies mid-way between the two lines. The latter would seem to be the sides of a tomb chamber and the single stone in the middle is possibly all that remains of a dividing wall between the two parts.

FINDS FROM THE PARISH OF TULLYBRACKY.

Grange Townland.

Stone Axe. Sheet 32. W.4.2; N.8.2.

Only a small fragment survives, the portion which contains the cutting edge. It is of grey-black shaley limestone. Length 13", width 2". Now kept at the Boys' National School, Grange, Co. Limerick.

UREGARE PARISH (J).

Only a portion of this parish lies within Small County. It occupies the S.W. corner of the S.E. expansion of the barony. On the N.E. is Knockainy Parish and on the E. is Athneasy. On the S., W., and N.W., its boundaries are also those of the barony. The land lies between 250' and 350' O.D., and much of it is wet and marshy. The parish contains 9 townlands and covers an area of 1845 acres.

Ballinamona (368).

Earthwork, Type A, and 3 Barrows. Sheet 40. W.20.9; N.32.9. O.D. 280'.

The earthwork is a small circular platform which appears to have been surrounded by a fosse and outer bank. These two features are doubtful, as drainage trenches have been made on both sides of it, and have done much damage. The height of the platform is 5' and the overall diameter is 65'. At the N. side of the platform is a hollow which may be the entrance to a souterrain. The land-owner made an attempt to dig away the monument and began at this point, but when very little had been done, the remains of a stone "arch" became visible, and the work was discontinued.

On the other side of the fence which lies immediately E. of it are three ring-barrows. All are exactly similar except in diameter. They are circular flat spaces surrounded by continuous fosses and banks. The latter are slight but the fosses are well defined. The diameters are 15', 18' and 24' respectively.

Ballincollo (386).

Ring-Barrow. Sheet 40. Same location as last monument above.

This structure is part of the above complex but is separated from the other monuments by the townland boundary. It is a very low mound surrounded by a slight fosse outside which there is a definite bank, and outside that another fosse. The max. height of the bank is 1' 6" and the overall diameter is 60'. The structure is somewhat larger than the usual barrow of this type in the barony. It is possible that it is a small fort, but the continuous fosse seems to indicate otherwise.

Ballinstona South (141).

Earthwork, Type C. Sheet 40. W.5.0; N. 49.5.

A high circular mound surrounded by a fosse. The monument has been partially dug away on the E. side and here the edge of the mound and fosse are gone. The top of the mound seems to have been flat originally but it now slopes to the E. The overall diameter is 150' and the height of the mound is 12'. The fosse is deeply water-logged.

 Bulgadenhall (222).


Called St. Patrick's Well on the O.S. map. The name is still known locally, but all devotion has ceased. It is overgrown and uncared for. Tradition says that the Saint stopped here on his journey through Limerick.

Earthwork, Type C. Sheet 40. W.16.3; N.48.5. O.D. 315'.

A circular platform surrounded by a fosse. A modern drainage trench has cut off an arc of both. Its max. height is 11' and overall diameter 50'.

Cottage (137).

Earthwork, Type A. Sheet 40. W.3.4; N.44.3. O.D. 320'.

A circular platform surrounded by a wide fosse and outer bank. The platform has a slight slope in all directions from the centre. Its max. height over the fosse bottom is 8' and the overall diameter is 460'. The structure has been damaged by the cutting of a drainage trench through it and by the building of fences around it.

Tankardstown (312).

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 40. W.12.9; N.20.4. O.D. 260'.

A circular platform on the edge of which there is a bank. It is surrounded by a fosse. The max. height of the platform over the fosse bottom is 5' and the overall diameter is 70'. The entrance is not recognisable.

Earthwork, Type B. Sheet 40. W.14.9; N.24.9. O.D. 270'.

A very small structure situated on the top of a mound which may be natural or partly artificial. It consists of a slight platform on the edge of which there is a bank surrounded on the outside by a fosse. The overall diameter is 30'. The mound on which it stands has been
cut on the one side by the public road, and on the other by a drainage trench. Westropp (86) has described it.

**Earthwork, Type A (?). Sheet 40. W.10.2; N.24.1. O.D. 265′.**

A circular platform which has a slightly hollow centre. Outside it is a fosse and outer bank. It is not possible to say if the platform had a bank at its edge or not. The entrance is not recognisable and the fosse and outer bank are continuous all round. The height of the platform is about 4′ and the overall diameter is 160′.

**FINDS FROM THE PARISH OF UREGARE.**

**Tankardstown Townland.**

**Rush-Light and Candle Holder. Sheet 40. W.14.9; N.24.9.**

This object was found beside the small fort described above and consists of a base made from a circular iron ring from which four uprights rise up and join together to form a support for a central stem of iron. The upper end of this has a pincers like pair of jaws which hold the rush-light. From one of the jaws projects an arm which held the candle, the weight of which kept the jaws closed on the rush-light. The overall height is 13′. Museum, University College, Cork.

There are three townlands in this parish which contain no antiquities—Ballybeg (161), Baunageeragh (161), and Gormanstown (62).

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**THE END.**