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THE BRONZE AGE BURIALS OF IRELAND



John Waddell

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Plate 1. Short rectangular cist containing a crouched skeleton and a bowl.
Grave no. 6 in the Keenoge, Co. Meath, cemetery. (Photograph: National Museum of Ireland).

THE BRONZE AGE BURIALS OF IRELAND

JOHN WADDELL

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PREFACE

When the seventeenth-century antiquary John Aubrey undertook the study of some stone circles in his *Monumenta Britannica*, he was moved to declare modestly: 'this Inquiry I must confess is a groping in the Dark: but although I have not brought it into a clear light; yet I can affirm that I have brought it from an utter darkness, to a thin Mist' (Hunter 1975, 182). His words have been quoted more than once in recent years, perhaps because they are an early expression of some appreciation of the limitations of archaeological inference. Centuries later, it must be acknowledged that a similar thin mist seems to envelop the burials of the Irish earlier Bronze Age, and this obfuscation is due in great part both to the enormous amount of information which has been lost and to the very fragmentary nature of much of the surviving evidence. Indeed the scale of this loss is one reason which prompted me to compile a gazetteer of burials. Those that await discovery and examination deserve the most careful recording, for they are precious remnants. While this is an attempt to synthesize the bulk of the evidence as recorded to about 1980, I fortunately did not have to grope in utter darkness, for this study would not have been possible but for the diligence of generations of workers in the realm of Irish archaeology. The acknowledgements in the list of illustrations are one indication of my debt to others. Regrettably, it has not been possible to have these illustrations re-drawn to a standard format.

I am very grateful to those colleagues who provided me with details of burials, and their individual contributions are acknowledged in the gazetteer. Of particular help were Mr Breandán Ó Ríordáin, Director of the National Museum of Ireland, and Dr Michael Ryan, Keeper of Irish Antiquities, who permitted me to use material in the records of that institution, and Mr Lawrence Flanagan and Mrs Winifred Glover of the Ulster Museum, who provided me with details, mainly from the Ordnance Survey memoirs, of a number of discoveries in the north of Ireland. Professor Michael Duignan was a constant source of constructive criticism, and the National University of Ireland gave a subvention towards the cost of publication. Permission to reproduce published illustrations was kindly given by the Royal Irish Academy (Figs. 14, 25, 45, 46, 49, 54, 57, 60, 66–68, 79, 80, 83, 84, 112, 117, 123 and 127), the Royal

Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, the Ulster Archaeological Society, the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society, the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, the Thomond Archaeological Society, the Kildare Archaeological Society, the Kilkenny Archaeological Society, the County Louth Archaeological Society and the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society.

My thanks are also due to Mrs Bernie Broderick for her typing skills, to Ms Angela Gallagher for invaluable assistance with illustrations, and to Ms Valerie Wilson for the cover design.

JW. 1985

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PART 1
THE FUNERARY RECORD

It is a commonplace in Irish archaeology that most of the rather limited knowledge of the earlier Bronze Age derives from the study of two distinct groups of archaeological material: on the one hand, the numerous artifacts of copper, bronze and gold, and on the other, the numerous burials – many contained in or accompanied by pottery vessels. Even a cursory examination of the archaeological literature reveals a bewildering variety of funerary ritual: unburnt burial and cremated burial, cist grave and pit grave, tumulus and flat grave, cemetery and solitary burial, are all represented. Grave goods may or may not be present: pottery is the commonest artifact placed in these graves and the major types comprise bowl and vase ‘food vessels’, ‘enlarged food vessels’ or vase urns, encrusted urns, cordoned urns and collared urns. Other objects of stone, metal or bone occur from time to time.

Excluding finds from megalithic tombs, references to just over 1300 certain, or possible, earlier Bronze Age graves are recorded. These are catalogued, by county and by townland, in Part 2 and this gazetteer of burials is intended as a contribution towards a corpus of the funerary evidence. The total quoted is, of course, a minimal figure for all those inadequately recorded sites reported as having ‘several’ or ‘many’ burials have merely been credited with one; moreover, we can be sure that an unknown, but large, number of graves has been destroyed unrecorded. In addition to those burials with pottery or other datable grave goods, discoveries of undated crouched burials and cremations in cists or pits are included as possible Bronze Age examples. In some cases, where, for example, aceramic burials occur in Bronze Age cemeteries, this is obviously a reasonable conclusion but the *caveat* that such graves are, in effect, of unknown date should be borne in mind (Burgess and Shennan 1976, 319). Mere references to ‘kistvaens and urns’ (e.g. Kinahan 1888), ‘portions of cinerary urns’, ‘stone-lined graves’, etc. (e.g. O’Lavery 1878, *passim*) are not included unless there is some indication, such as size of grave or contents of ‘urn’, to suggest a possible Bronze Age date. A number of cemeteries of supposedly Bronze Age date listed by Flanagan (1976) are omitted for this reason: for example, his Sheepland More, Loughkeeland, Castlebeg and Ballygilbert, all in Co. Down, are merely references to ‘stone-lined graves’ with no further details given and could, of course, be cemeteries of long cists or

slab-lined graves of more recent date.

It is no surprise to find that the majority of recorded burials were accompanied by, or otherwise associated with, pottery of one type or another. However, it is abundantly clear from nineteenth- and early twentieth-century accounts that, in general, burials without grave goods or other striking features were commonly disregarded by antiquarians, so that we can never hope to estimate with any degree of accuracy the ratios of the several kinds of burial. One of the earliest accounts of the discovery of a probable Bronze Age burial records the seventeenth-century find of what may have been a cist in a cairn near Headford, Co. Galway, which contained two pottery vessels ‘a greater and a less, both of them containing ashes and burnt bones’. (Bibliographical references to this burial and all others cited in the following pages are given in the gazetteer in Part 2).

An early account of the discovery of a cemetery was communicated to the Dublin Philosophical Society in June 1685, when a correspondent reported some finds made near Duntryleague, Co. Limerick:

‘Capt. Massy laid his commands upon me to give you this following account concerning some urns that were found upon his lands of Dontrileague, which was thus: upon the 6th of June 1682 some of his Irish tenants were digging a ditch about a small garden plot and as they were at work they found several stones standing up square and a broad stone upon the top, under which they saw a red urn or pitcher with a small round stone upon the top of it (one of which, with some fragments of urns and a few bones, he has sent you), and in the said urn they found ashes and earth which was blackish, and some small pieces of bones which had been burned. There was fifteen of these in number, which stood all in a row about three foot deep in the earth, some of which held, as was supposed, a pottle, some a quart, and some small ones a pint. Some of them had creases round about them, and some were plain, but by the negligence and ignorance of the workmen were all broken...’.

This all too brief and inadequate description of a flat cemetery, which evidently contained one or two cist graves and several urn burials, is regrettably all too typical of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century documentation. A nineteenth-century account of a discovery in the townland of Grange

Upper, Co. Kilkenny, runs as follows:

'In deeply ploughing a field a large stone was come upon, on raising which, a small kist, formed of flags, was discovered in which were the urns – one containing burned bones ... Unfortunately, the finders being disappointed at the discovery that they had not got a "pot of gold", broke the urn to pieces'. Another 'urn' burial at Cargan, Co. Antrim, suffered a similar fate. It was destroyed by the finder 'who disappointed at not finding treasure in it, which is the vulgar belief of the people, dashed it to pieces on a stone'. Over the centuries a great number of burials like these must have been destroyed in this fashion. Even in more recent years, the majority of Bronze Age burials found have been casual discoveries in the course of gravel digging (like the Rahinashurock cist: Plate 2), ploughing, and the like, usually disturbed by the finders and investigated under adverse conditions. (Since the work of the Archaeological Mission of the Harvard Irish Survey commenced with the excavation of the cemetery mound at Knockast, Co. Westmeath, in 1932, only a few dozen Bronze Age burial sites can be said to have been scientifically investigated and documented).

It must be emphasised that our very defective information about so many finds admits of the formulation of only broad generalisations and tentative suggestions about virtually every aspect of Bronze Age funerary practice. It is the purpose of this short study to attempt a general account of the remarkable variety of both funerary practice and pot-type – both are clearly closely related and neither can be satisfactorily studied in isolation. However, as the attention given to pottery indicates, this provides a convenient framework for a consideration of the varied funerary ritual.

In 1857, Sir William Wilde published the first volume of his celebrated catalogue of the antiquities 'of stone, earthen, and vegetable materials' in the museum of the Royal Irish Academy. Therein he presented the first general survey of Irish Bronze Age burials and their assorted grave goods. He commented at length on the variety of burial rites, noting that pottery vessels 'have been found singly in small kists, or stone chambers, beneath the surface of the ground, or aggregated, generally in earthen mounds ...'. (Wilde 1857, 169). Subsequent work concentrated, however, on pottery typology with only occasional allusion to burial ritual (Thurnam 1871, Abercromby 1912, Young 1951, ApSimon 1958 and 1969). Short

studies of cist graves (Waddell 1970) and cemeteries (Flanagan 1976; Waddell 1981) have appeared, and Kavanagh (1973, 1976, 1977) has described the funerary context of several urn types and of 'pygmy' cups. Since most Irish and, indeed, British pottery of the earlier second millennium BC comes from burials, it is not surprising that, to this day, the burial ritual has had a major impact on pottery classification. Abercromby's (1912) classification marks the real commencement of the typological analysis of insular Bronze Age pottery. As with earlier writers, and as the very names 'food vessel' and 'cinerary urn' indicate, the funerary function, real or supposed, continued to be an important factor in the basic pottery classification.

Food vessels were so named because it was assumed they were 'probably intended to contain an offering of food; usually found with unburnt bodies but not infrequently with burnt bones, though never containing them' (Bateman 1861, 279). The name cinerary urn applied, as Thurnam (1871, 343) pointed out, to vessels 'which contain, or were even designed for the reception of, burnt bones. They are of every size, from the capacity of less than a pint to that of more than a bushel'. Coffey (1913, 99) did remark that the name 'food vessel' is hardly appropriate in Ireland 'as in many cases these vessels have been found containing cremated bones, having apparently served the purpose of cinerary urns' and Macalister (1921, 209) was aware of the fact that some 'cinerary urns' had come from apparently domestic contexts. Names which suggest a particular function for a certain pottery type as a whole may seem at first to be reasonable and convenient labels. They may, however, be quite misleading. Although the name has been popular for over a century, food remains have yet to be found in an Irish 'food vessel'. These pots may, of course, have held some liquid refreshment, perhaps a mead-like substance as in some Scottish and other beakers (Dickson 1978). A viscous alcoholic porridge has also been suggested (Hawkes 1977). Other possible uses should be borne in mind. At Betaghstown, Co. Meath, a crouched skeleton was accompanied by an inverted bowl and the apparently deliberate placing of the mouth of a bowl against the vault of the skull of a corpse in a cist at Dungate, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 101), raises other questions. If, for example, some pots were intended to be temporary containers for the spirit of the deceased, then even the most diligent archaeological enquiry is unlikely to produce

results. Magico-religious practices of some description are probably indicated by finds such as the bowl containing a pyramidal pile of small stones at Gortcorbies, Co. Derry, and another bowl discovered lying on its side with a stone stuck in its mouth in a wedge tomb at Loughash, Co. Tyrone (Davies and Mullin 1940).

In 1937, Miss L. F. Chitty distinguished two basic types of 'food vessel' in Britain and Ireland: the Irish Bowl and the English (or Yorkshire) Vase (Chitty 1939, 277). In a general study, concerned primarily with origins and development, ApSimon (1958) distinguished four major regional groups: Irish Bowls, Irish Vases, Yorkshire Vases and Southern English food vessels. Later, however, in a study of the earlier Bronze Age in the north of Ireland, ApSimon (1969) altered somewhat this classification: the 'Irish Vase' becoming the 'Irish-Scottish Vase' in consequence of Simpson's (1965) recognition of the type in Scotland, where he considered it to be a local development from Beaker pottery. ApSimon also regarded certain cinerary urn types as sufficiently closely related to these food vessels to warrant their inclusion in a general 'Irish-Scottish Vase and Urn Group', the urns being differentiated from the vases mainly by their size and, to a lesser degree, by their function. The Irish Bowl group remained intact, although a small number of 'urn-sized vessels' with Irish Bowl features is included. The Yorkshire Vase in the north of Ireland is assigned to a separate category, along with typologically related cinerary urns, which ApSimon calls the 'Food Vessel group'; he suggests that the urn-sized vessels of this group be called 'Food Vessel Urns', a name adopted by Gibson (1978) in a study of vases and urns in north-eastern England.

In placing certain vessels (encrusted urns and 'enlarged food vessels'), heretofore classed as cinerary urns, in the same category as one or other of the two vase food vessel types, ApSimon made a significant contribution to the development of the study of Irish Bronze Age pottery.

Encrusted urns and 'enlarged food vessels' were classed by Abercromby (1912) as cinerary urns of his Type 6 and Type 7 respectively; his Type 1 (overhanging rim or collared urn) and Type 5 (cordoned urn) are also found in Ireland. Abercromby's scheme was accepted, with only minor modifications, for over half a century. The origins and development of the collared urn in England and Wales have been studied by Longworth (1984)

and Kavanagh (1976) has published a useful corpus of the Irish material. Kavanagh has also published a study of Irish cordoned urns and encrusted urns (Kavanagh 1976, 1973) and Brindley (1980) has examined the relationships of the various pottery traditions.

For over a hundred years, the pottery of the developed early Bronze Age has been divided into the two major, food vessel and urn, categories. As already mentioned, food vessels usually accompany both cremated and unburnt burials and urns usually contain cremated burials and the use of phrases such as 'Food vessel societies' and 'Urn folk' (Childe 1947, 119, 135) is but one expression of the cultural significance attributed to this funerary-cum-ceramic dichotomy, a dichotomy accepted without reservation in Kavanagh's studies of the Irish urns and in Herity and Eogan's survey of Irish prehistory (Herity and Eogan 1977, 133, 148). ApSimon's 1969 reorganisation of the various food vessel and urn types was an imaginative attempt to resolve a major problem of the food vessel tradition as a whole, namely the long evident, though undefined, typological relationship of certain urn and food vessel types to one another, a problem all the more acute now that we realise that food vessels and urns may, in many instances, not just overlap chronologically with one another, but be broadly contemporary. Indeed while precise dating is difficult, a general date in the early second millennium BC (c. 2000–1500 BC) for the majority of these pots is likely.

PROBLEMS OF TERMINOLOGY

The necessity for adequate basic classification in archaeology must still be emphasized (Clarke 1968, 187) and in many areas of archaeological endeavour, both classification and terminology often remain ill-defined and ambiguous; this is particularly true in the field of insular Bronze Age pottery. In the past, despite 'a premathematical ability to recognise non-arbitrary collections of artifacts on the basis of spatial propinquity or inclusion within some well-defined boundary' (Spaulding 1971, 9), archaeologists have often contented themselves with loose definitions in terms of assumed function or of resemblance to some familiar object of more recent date. Function may, of course, be one of the basic characteristics of an artifact, but when dealing with certain pottery classes, however, a function-assuming terminology, if used where any evidence for function may, at best,

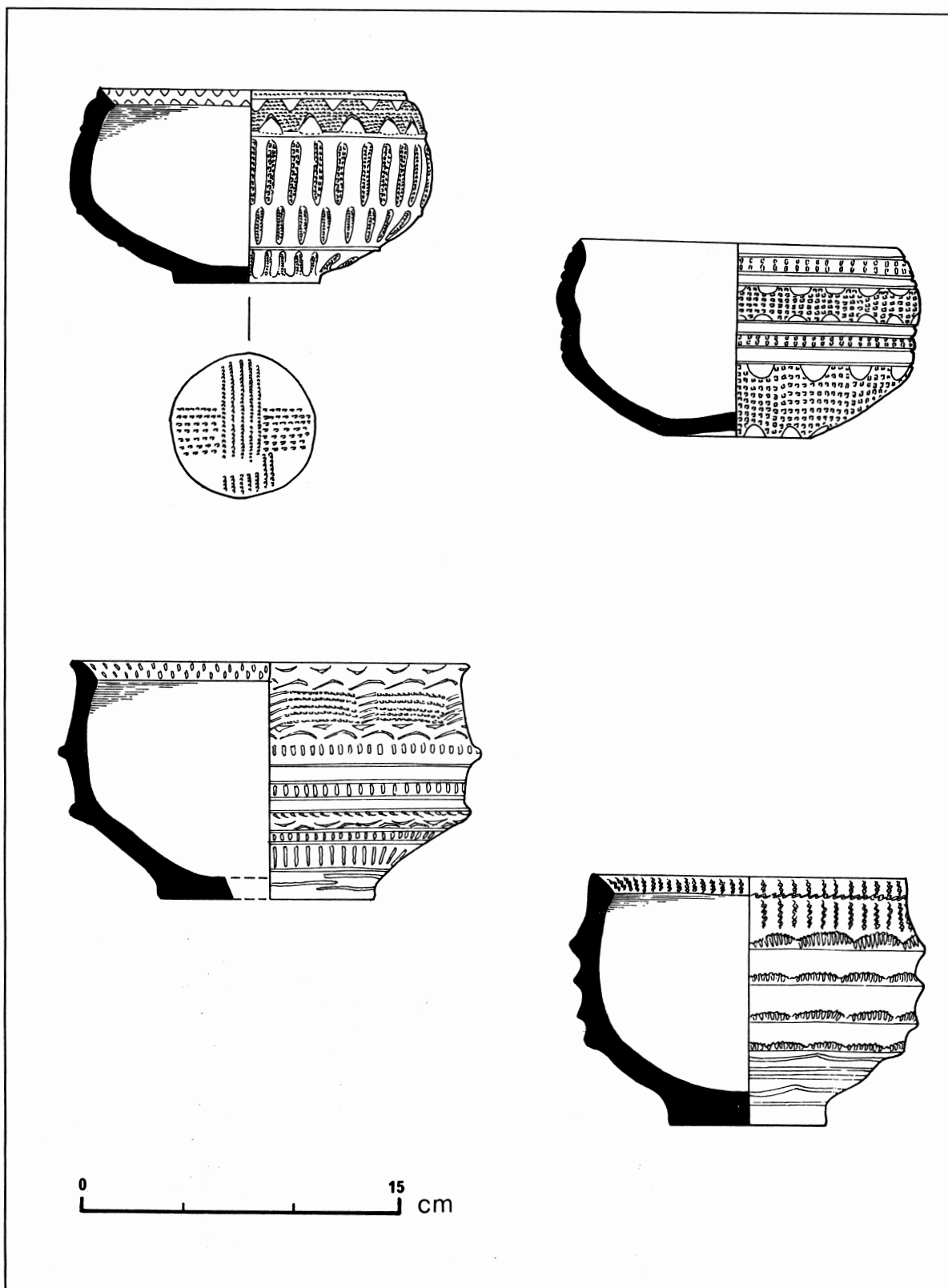


Fig. 1. Pottery of the Bowl Tradition (after ASCD).

be tenuous, will inevitably lead to confusion, if not, indeed, to misunderstanding.

Colt Hoare's 'drinking cup' was replaced by Abercromby's 'beaker', a word he borrowed from German terminology; 'incense-cup', he replaced by the equally unsatisfactory 'pygmy cup'. The terms 'food vessel' and 'cinerary urn' remain and, as we have seen, now embrace a wide variety of misnamed, or badly named, pot types: bowl and vase food vessels, beaker food vessels, enlarged food vessels, encrusted urns, food vessel urns, to instance but a few. Over the years, the functional connotations of the names 'food vessel' and 'cinerary urn' have been increasingly ignored, so that the names themselves are now no more than convenient, and, at times, meaningless labels. In actual fact, to consider some of the Irish evidence only, food vessels have been found, not only accompanying crouched skeletons, but also in cremation graves, even themselves containing cremated human remains. A bowl found in Greenhills, Co. Dublin, at the feet of a skeleton, itself contained a cremation, as did a bowl found in Harristown, Co. Waterford; an empty bowl found in a pit in Ballyenahan, Co. Cork (Fig. 21F), was inverted beside a cremation: while another in a pit-grave in Curglassan, Co. Tyrone, was inverted – in true urn fashion – over a deposit of cremated bone. On the other hand, cinerary urns have been found, not only in funerary, but also in domestic contexts, as at Downpatrick, Co. Down, where cordoned urn sherds were associated with traces of round timber houses and a hearth (Pollock and Waterman 1964). Longworth (1984) has remarked that his Primary Series of collared urns could be classified according to function as either domestic or funerary, and that within the latter category vessels might be described as urns when they contained cremated remains or as accessory vessels when they simply accompanied a burial. However, these functional categories rightly play no part in his typological analysis.

In Ireland, it seems desirable that the term 'food vessel' should be used as little as possible, as it masks both the very real typological distinction between bowls and vases and the close relationship between vases and certain urn types. I use the term 'bowl' and 'vase' as I defined them some years ago (Waddell 1976). In addition, I use the term 'cup' in place of 'pygmy cup', and the term 'urn' of specific types of other pottery vessels, irrespective of their funerary or domestic use.

THE BOWL TRADITION

Irish bowls derive mainly from funerary contexts, but sherds have also come from domestic and ritual sites. The classic hand-made pottery bowl, with its semi-globular form and all-over comb and 'false-relief' ornament is well known (Fig. 1). There is some variety of form: simple, constricted or bipartite, tripartite and multi-rib examples occur. Impressed ornament is highly characteristic of all bowl forms: horizontal zonal decoration, executed with a toothed implement and commonly referred to as comb ornament; lines of impressions executed with a triangular-pointed or a spatulate implement give the raised chevron design which Abercromby (1912, 1, 135) called false-relief and which Childe considered (1935, 92) to be a borrowing from the woodworker's *Kerbschnitt* technique. The whole of the exterior of the vessel is invariably ornamented, while rim bevels and the exteriors of bases may be decorated occasionally. A corpus of both bowls and vases is in course of preparation.

Bowls appear to be found mainly in the north and east of the country. In fact about 90% have been discovered roughly to the north of a line from Ballysadare Bay, Co. Sligo, south-eastwards to Wexford harbour. In the north-east, the type is distributed throughout Counties Antrim, Derry, Down, and Tyrone. Less plentiful in Armagh, Monaghan, and Louth, a greater concentration is evident in north Meath and north Dublin. Other notable concentrations occur in Westmeath and in the south Dublin–Kildare–west Wicklow area. Scattered examples occur elsewhere. Known mainly from funerary contexts, they also come from habitation sites, such as Coney Island, Lough Neagh (Co. Armagh), where faint remains of two, possibly rectangular, structures and of a hearth were associated with bowl sherds (Addyman 1965, 84); Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin (Liversage 1968, 157); and sandhill sites in the north-east (e.g. Collins 1952, 5). Sherds have also come from ritual sites, notably the Grange stone circle, Co. Limerick (S. P. Ó Ríordáin 1951, 59), and Urralreagh, Co. Antrim (Waterman 1968, 25).

Bowls are known from both megalithic and single-grave contexts. Examples of the former association, however, are not at all numerous: the bowl from Audleystown, Co. Down, is one example from a court tomb (Collins 1954); in at least five instances bowls have been found in passage tombs, either along with secondary burials in the covering mound or, apparently, accompanying intrusive

burials in the tomb itself (A. B. Ó Ríordáin 1968). They have been found in five wedge tombs: two in Loughash (Cashelbane), Co. Tyrone, were considered to be secondary by the excavators (Davies and Mullin 1940); however, in Largantea, Co. Derry, a bowl was apparently associated with sherds of late Northern and late Southern Beakers (Herring 1938; D. L. Clarke 1970, Vol. 2, 527). Some sherds from the wedge tomb in Lough Gur townland, Co. Limerick, which also yielded beaker, may be of a bowl (S. P. Ó Ríordáin and Ó h-Iceadha 1955, 43); in Kilhoyle, Co. Derry, sherds of the same bowl came from various levels both outside and inside the tomb (Herring and May 1938, 36). The relationship of bowls to the other pottery traditions (beaker, coarse ware and urn) represented in wedge tombs is far from clear. It is worth observing that two bowls from Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin, came from cist graves which were undoubtedly secondary to a wedge tomb.

With the exception of those bowls noted above, all other examples – whose funerary context has been recorded – came from either cist or pit graves. Unfortunately, in any study of funerary context the most glaring deficiency is the high percentage of the provenanced bowls with little or no information about the circumstances of their discovery. For example, details of whether a particular bowl was found in a cist or a pit are available only for about half (52%) of the published funerary pots; whether or not the accompanying human remains were unburnt or cremated is recorded in less than half (45%) of this 52% of cases, and of course more detailed information still is even scantier.

Of those bowls with general details of the accompanying burial recorded, some 50% were found with unburnt burials and 50% with cremations. Virtually all the unburnt burials appear to have been 'crouched' in either a pit or a cist and, although the information is scanty, it would seem that the bowl had, more often than not, been placed beside the skull, frequently in front of the face. As the following examples indicate, the position of the bowl near the head is a regular occurrence:

Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry: beside the skull (at face): cist.
 Aghfarrell, Co. Dublin: behind the skull: cist.
 Ballsbridge, Co. Dublin: 'in front of skeleton': pit.
 Edmondstown, Co. Dublin: cist 1: in front of head;

cist 11: in front of head.
 Greenhills, Co. Dublin: bowl containing cremation at foot of skeleton: pit.
 Whitestown, Co. Dublin: beside skull: pit.
 Blackhill, Co. Kildare: at feet of crouched skeleton of child: cist.
 Brownstown, Co. Kildare: beside skull: pit.
 Calverstown, Co. Kildare: 'near the head': cist.
 Halverstown, Co. Kildare: behind skull: pit.
 Oldtown, Co. Kildare: beside skull: pit.
 Ploopluck, Co. Kildare: behind head: pit.
 Fourknocks I, Co. Meath: on lap: cist 1.
 Fourknocks II, Co. Meath: in front of skull: burial 4: cist.
 Keenoge, Co. Meath: grave 3: 2 bowls, one behind skull, other behind lower back: pit.
 Keenoge, Co. Meath: grave 5: in front of skull: pit.
 Keenoge, Co. Meath: grave 6: in front of face: cist.
 Keenoge, Co. Meath: grave 9: in front of face: cist.
 Keenoge, Co. Meath: grave 11: in front of face: pit.
 Keenoge, Co. Meath: grave 14: near skull: pit.
 Stonepark, Co. Sligo: in front of face: cist.
 Camaghy, Co. Tyrone: 'at head': cist B.
 Dungate, Co. Tyrone: on side against skull: cist.
 Barrettstown, Co. Westmeath: near legs: cist.
 Milltown, Co. Westmeath: in front of skull: cist.
 Riverstown, Co. Westmeath: in front near face: cist.
 Annagh More, Co. Wexford: apparently at face: cist.
 Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow: in front of face: cist 1.
 Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow: beside skull: cist 2.
 Haylands, Co. Wicklow: behind skull: cist D.

It seems to have been usual to place the bowl mouth upwards and no less than twenty-five of this sample of thirty-two bowls were placed near the head as in grave 6 in the Keenoge flat cemetery (Plate 1). In a few instances bowls were placed at the feet or legs and one of the bowls in grave 3 at Keenoge was placed at the lower back. There is, at the moment, insufficient evidence to indicate any pattern of burial orientation or bowl deposition which may be correlated with age or sex; bowls have been found with adult males and females as well as with children. As Ryan (1974) has shown, unburnt burial is relatively rare outside the south-east and the midlands, but some examples are known in the west of Ireland (with vases) and occasionally in the north. Graves containing a crouched skeleton accompanied by a bowl or vase are the

classic Irish representatives of the single-grave phenomenon which finds expression in Britain in numerous burials with beakers or vases.

Details have rarely been recorded about the position of those bowls found with cremated bones. Bowls placed mouth upwards come from burials such as Duvernagh, Co. Armagh, a cist (Fig. 12); and cists in Bellanascaddan, Co. Donegal, Ballynagross, Co. Down, Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, Belmore Mt., Co. Fermanagh, and Corrower, Co. Mayo. They have been found accompanying cremations in pit graves in Drimnagh, Co. Dublin, and Corrower. Bowls lying on their sides were found at Cornaclery, Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry: cist, and Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone: pit. Bowls from cists at Knockast, Co. Westmeath (cremation 38) and Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow, both accompanied and contained cremated bone. In a pit grave in Ballyenahan, Co. Cork (Fig. 21F), an inverted bowl accompanied a deposit of cremated bone. In another pit grave at Curglassan, Co. Tyrone, a bowl was inverted over some cremated bone and this may have been the ritual in a cist at Rackavra, Co. Westmeath.

A small number of bowls seem to have been placed mouth upwards and containing a deposit of burnt bone: Tullyvallen, Co. Armagh: cist (?); Termon, Co. Cavan: cist; Tamnyagan, Co. Derry: cist; Greenhills, Co. Dublin: pit; Ballyglass, Co. Roscommon: cist. A bowl in a possible pit at Harristown, Co. Waterford, was found on its side and containing cremated bone. Of some twenty-one bowls, a majority (eleven) accompanied the deposit of cremated bone and most were placed mouth upwards. No less than eight, however, contained some cremated bone and the Curglassan example was inverted in true 'cinerary urn' fashion; the Rackavra bowl may have been similarly placed.

The problems involved in the examination, aging and sexing of cremated bones are well known. These problems, when coupled with the limited amount of analysis of burnt bones found with bowls (and indeed with other pottery types as well) mean that information on this particular aspect of the funerary record is quite scanty. At present all that can be said is that bowls have been found with the cremated bones of adults as well as children, e.g. Corrower, Co. Mayo, and Ballyenahan, Co. Cork. Occasionally multiple burials occur: at Corrower one grave contained three bowls and burnt bones representing five persons,

and at Knockiveagh, Co. Down, the bones represented an adult and a child.

I have already pointed out that only slightly more than half the bowls from probable funerary contexts have details of grave-type recorded. Of these vessels, approximately 78% were found in cists and some 22% in pits. Cists are almost invariably short and rectangular. At Kilkenny, Co. Roscommon, however, a small cairn covered a long cist which contained some cremated bone and the remains of a bowl (Fig. 88). The cist which contained the Killinagh, Co. Cavan, bowl may have been polygonal; this was the case at Ballydullaghan (Cornaclery), Co. Derry (grave c), which contained a cremation and a bowl, and in the cemetery mound at Corrower, Co. Mayo (grave 7: Fig. 80). A few pit graves containing bowls have been found in cemetery mounds: a pit with traces of organic lining, containing a bowl and a crouched skeleton, was found at Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow, and the Corrower mound also contained several pits with bowls and cremations. The majority of pit graves were flat graves, however, and most have been poorly recorded. Bowls have been found in over twenty cemetery mounds and in over sixteen flat cemeteries. Cemeteries – mound or flat – with no pottery other than bowls are not common: the cemetery mound in Corrower, Co. Mayo, seems to be the only certain example though this may have been the case in the flat cemeteries in Martinstown, Co. Meath, and Ploopluck, Co. Kildare. In Corrower, nine graves were found: in five, the human remains, all cremated, were accompanied by bowls. Martinstown and Ploopluck are poorly recorded but each yielded several bowls, all apparently associated with crouched skeletons in pits. However, urn sherds were found in the vicinity of both these sites. As we shall see, cemeteries usually contain a variety of pottery types, and the claim that cemetery mounds are characteristic of the Irish bowl group cannot be substantiated.

THE VASE TRADITION

If the Bowl Tradition has a mixed burial rite in which it seems unburnt burial and cremation were more or less contemporary and of equal popularity, the ritual of the Vase Tradition was even more varied. Here various forms of vase, vase urn and encrusted urn (Fig. 2) accompanied or contained human remains. All these pot types were, of course, hand-made and often decorated with

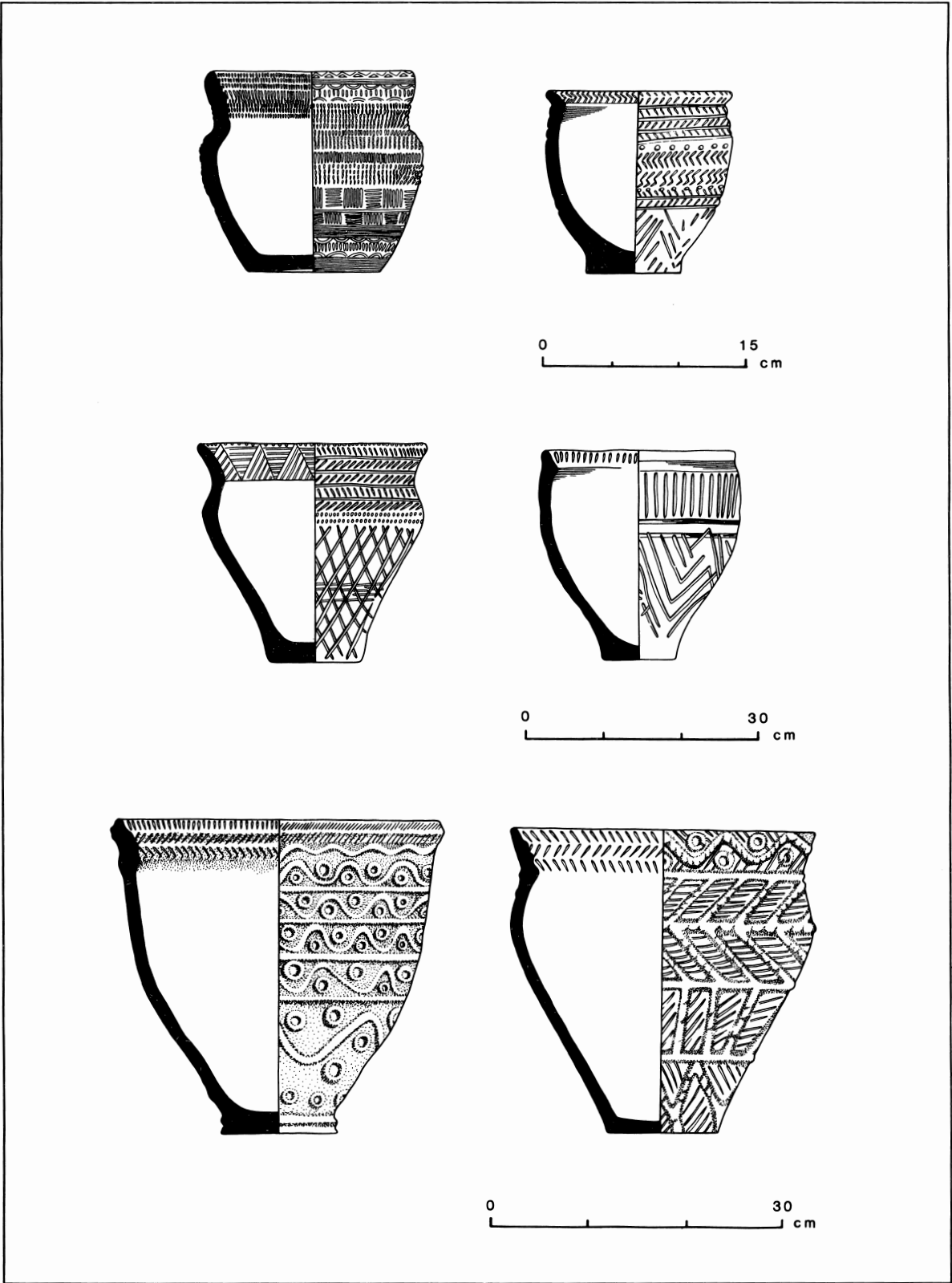


Fig. 2. Pottery of the Vase Tradition: vases, vase urns and encrusted urns (after ASCD and Kavanagh).

incised ornament though other decorative techniques were used occasionally.

As Abercromby recognised, a vase with a pronounced shoulder and an everted neck is one Irish form, of which the best known examples are probably those from Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh, and from Ballyduff, Co. Wexford, found with a faience-head. Incised decoration is common and hatched or filled triangles are a frequent motif; herring-bone, oblique lines and lattice patterns also occur. ApSimon (1969) has drawn attention to a small group of vases from the north of Ireland with concave or nearly vertical necks. An equally important vase form has a less accentuated profile and a predilection for the use of incised herring-bone or short line motifs. The distribution of vases, like bowls, is mainly in the north and east of the country; however, the distribution of vases also extends to the west and south, in Counties Galway, Mayo, Limerick and Cork. The majority come from funerary contexts, but sherds are also recorded from some sandhills sites such as Whitepark Bay, Co. Antrim, and Dundrum, Co. Down (ApSimon 1969), and a habitation site on Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin (Liversage 1968, Site v). The archaeological record is, unfortunately, silent or, at best, rather uninformative, about details of the burial rites of the several vase types. Sufficient information is recorded, however, to permit some generalisations. It would appear that the majority of vases were found in cist graves, where they frequently accompanied a deposit of cremated bone. At least the nature of the grave is recorded for some 58% of a sample of some 112 vases; unfortunately, all too rarely are any precise details of the grave reported. Where details are known, the majority (86%) of vases come from cist graves, the remainder (14%) from pit graves. As far as can be judged, the majority of cists were short and rectangular or sub-rectangular. A cist in Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford (Fig. 121), was more or less polygonal, although the use of one long slab gave more than a hint of sub-rectangularity; a vase from Cave townland, Knockma, Co. Galway, was found in a long cist.

In view of the high proportion of cases where no information about the grave type is available, little can be confidently deduced from the numbers of cist and pit graves recorded. The position of the vase in the grave varies. Pit graves at Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim, Greenhills, Co. Dublin (burial 5), and Fourknocks II, Co. Meath, contained in-

verted vases. At Glenavy, Co. Antrim, what was apparently a pit contained a small vase, half-filled with burnt bones and covered with an inverted vase. A pit grave at Knockmant, Co. Westmeath, contained a deposit of cremated bone with a vase, mouth upwards, beside it. A similar variety of position is characteristic of vases from cist graves. Although about fifty vases in cist graves are specifically reported to have been found with cremated bones, further information is all too often lacking. For only about half of these vases was their position in the cist recorded: of this sample some fifteen had been placed mouth upwards and accompanied the deposit of cremated bone, e.g. Ballynahow, Co. Cork (Fig. 22); Curran, Co. Antrim; Bunnamayne, Co. Donegal; and Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo. In a few instances the vase itself contained some of the cremated bone, e.g. Ower, Co. Galway, and possibly Ballyvester, Co. Down. (The probable vase from Aghacross, Co. Cork, and examples from Nymphsfield, Co. Mayo, and Castlehyde, Co. Cork, are all said to have 'contained' cremated bones; but their exact position was not recorded). A vase at Greenhills, Co. Dublin, stood mouth upwards beside an inverted encrusted urn containing a cremation.

Seven vases (from five cists) had been inverted: in Kilskeery, Co. Tyrone, a vase and an encrusted urn were each inverted over cremated bones; in Burgage More, Co. Wicklow, an inverted vase had been placed beside a deposit of cremated bone; the two vases found in one of the cists of the cemetery mound in Termon, Co. Cavan, had been inverted over cremated bone while more cremated bone lay on the floor of the cist. In a cist in the Letterkeen cemetery, Co. Mayo, two inverted vases lay on the floor of a cist which had been filled with earth and fragments of cremated bone; this somewhat unusual ritual, i.e. the mixing together of earthen fill and cremated bone, which recalls a ritual recognised in a number of Neolithic megalithic tombs (e.g. O'Kelly *et al.* 1978, 281) has also been noted elsewhere, as in a small sub-rectangular cist at Ballyduff, Co. Wexford, and in grave 7 (a polygonal cist containing three bowls) in the cemetery mound at Corrower, Co. Mayo (below). Finally, four vases had been laid on their sides alongside cremated bones: viz. one in the Ballyduff cist just mentioned, one in a cist in Mullagheep, Co. Donegal (Fig. 38), and two in a cist in Cush, Co. Limerick. In short, although there is a noticeable variety in the position of vases in cists, a majority

were placed mouth upwards beside the human remains.

Again, little analysis has been undertaken of cremated remains. In graves at Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim, and Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny, the bones proved to be those of adults. At Labbamolaga, Co. Cork, a vase was found with the cremated bones of an adult male, an adult female and a child.

In contrast to bowls, only a very small number of vases are reported as having accompanied unburnt bones. One possible example of an unburnt burial was found in Oaktate, Co. Louth, where two vases are reported to have been found in a cist in which no bones at all were noted – suggesting the possibility of a totally decayed skeletal burial. The reliably attested instances include the well-known burial on Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh (Fig. 49), in which vase sherds accompanied the unburnt bones of a (possibly crouched) skeleton; a deposit of cremated bones was found under a slab at one end of the grave. The seemingly mixed ritual of a cist burial in Ballyhacket Upper, Co. Carlow, in which a vase accompanied some unburnt bones and a cremation, recalls that of the Topped Mountain burial. A similar mixed ritual occurred with other vases in Cloghroak, Co. Galway, and with a typologically anomalous vase in Treanmacmurtagh, Co. Sligo. A vase accompanied a crouched skeleton in a cist in Glassamucky, Co. Dublin, and a vase urn and cremation were found nearby.

A group of unburnt burials accompanied by vases comes from Counties Galway and Mayo, and the details may be summarised as follows:

Cloghroak, Co. Galway: a short cist contained two vases, apparently standing mouth upwards, one on either long side of the grave. These accompanied the (apparently) crouched skeleton of a young person, probably female, and the unburnt remains of an infant; also in the grave were the cremated bones of an adult male.

Corrowntober, Co. Galway: a short cist, disturbed after discovery, contained the unburnt bones of a child accompanied by a vase.

Moyveela, Co. Galway: a short cist contained the crouched skeleton of a youth accompanied by a vase.

Kilcornan, Co. Galway: a short cist contained the crouched skeleton of a youth laid on its right side, a vase had been placed (presumably mouth upwards) at the back of the neck.

Cave, near Knockma, Co. Galway: a long cist in a

cairn contained the extended skeleton of an adult, head to the west. A vase stood mouth upwards at the eastern end of the grave, and portion of a second vase was found near the head of the skeleton. Carrowlisdoonaun, Co. Mayo: a short cist contained the remains of a vase and the skeleton of an adult.

Stonepark, Co. Mayo: a short cist contained the crouched skeleton of an adult accompanied by an anomalous vase with exceptional, all-over, pitted ornament.

Carrowntober East, Co. Galway: a short cist contained an inverted vase and the unburnt bones of an adult female and a child.

Gortnahown, Co. Galway: a short cist contained unburnt bones accompanied by a vase.

Kinard, Co. Mayo: a short cist contained a crouched skeleton accompanied by a vase.

What is of particular interest is the fact that while the relatively rare unburnt burials with vases have a scattered distribution, the only concentration is in this Galway-Mayo area.

VASE URNS AND ENCRUSTED URNS

I have argued elsewhere (Waddell 1976) that both vase urns (the 'enlarged food vessel' of Abercromby) and encrusted urns should, in Ireland at least, be grouped along with vases in a 'Vase Tradition'. I follow ApSimon (1969) in accepting a typological relationship between certain vase and urn types but I do not differentiate so sharply between Irish-Scottish vases and urns on the one hand and a Food Vessel group (including vases and urns) on the other. Cowie (1978), like ApSimon, places vase urns and encrusted urns in the one 'food vessel urn' category and summarises the various opinions on these vessels from Thurnam (1871) to Kavanagh (1973). Gibson (1978) also uses the term 'food vessel urn' to embrace the two urn types (and places collared and cordoned urns in a 'Cinerary Urn' class). This is not the place to pursue questions of pottery typology. It must suffice to reiterate that there are many clear parallels in form and ornament between individual vases, vase urns and encrusted urns. The relationship of these three pot types is also indicated by a significant triangular pattern of association: in a number of instances vases have been found with both urn types and both of these urn types have been found together too. The main difference between the vases and the typologically related urns

is one of size and function. As we have seen, vases frequently accompany human remains and the urns are larger vessels which usually contain them.

Of some eighty vase urns with recorded provenance, details of burial rite are known in about 69% of cases. Cist and pit grave appear to have been more or less equally common. Rarely, however, have particulars of the grave been recorded. In the case of cist graves there does appear to be a preference for the polygonal rather than the rectangular. Of some twenty-six cists, no details are known of twelve, nine can be described as polygonal and five belong to the short rectangular category. With only two exceptions, all the cists and pits contained a cremation in an inverted urn. There is no certain instance of a vase urn with an unburnt burial but two possible instances are recorded: in Oaktate, Co. Louth, a short rectangular cist in a mound contained two vases, a sherd of a possible third example, and sherds of a vase urn, but no bones of any kind; although the published account is very unsatisfactory, the possibility of a decayed unburnt burial cannot be excluded. A pit grave in a small and, unfortunately, badly documented flat cemetery in Oldtown, Co. Kildare, reportedly contained an unburnt burial, a small vessel (possibly a vase), and a vase urn; no details of the position of either the skeleton or the pots are preserved, indeed the report is so vague as to be almost worthless. Nonetheless, there remains the possibility that some vase urns may have been associated with unburnt burials. After all, a long pit grave, with no surviving bones, contained a collared urn-cordoned urn hybrid in Lisnagat, Co. Antrim, and there is a faint possibility that it had contained an extended, unburnt, burial. Furthermore, twenty-three British collared urns (of Longworth's Primary and Secondary Series) accompanied unburnt burials 'as accessory vessels' (Longworth 1984, 48).

Vase urns have rarely been found in or near megalithic tombs: sherds have been found in the court tomb in Clontygora, Co. Armagh (Davies and Paterson 1937), and in the Kilhoyle and Largantea wedge tombs, Co. Derry (Herring and May 1938; Herring 1938); all were probably secondary insertions; a secondary polygonal cist, in the cairn of the wedge tomb in Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin (Fig. 45: cist 3), contained a vase urn. A vase urn was found near the centre of a low earthen mound with surrounding ditch and bank at Lissard, Co. Limerick (Fig. 70); this is an unusual instance of a

Vase Tradition burial being the principal, central burial in a tumulus. Several cordoned urns come from similar contexts.

Several vase urns have been found with the cremated bones of one adult but at Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo, and Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow, the burnt remains were those of children. The bones of an adult with one or more children have been found at Caltragh, Co. Galway, and Cush, Co. Limerick; in an urn from Limavady, Co. Derry, the bones were those of two individuals.

Encrusted urn burials present much the same picture: a number of these urns have been found with the bones of adults, occasionally identified as males. At Crumlin, Co. Antrim, however, the bones of an adult female and a child were recorded and child cremations are reported from Newtown, Co. Limerick, Corradoon, Co. Waterford, and Calary Lower, Co. Wicklow. The bones of two adults were found beneath an inverted encrusted urn at Moanmore, Co. Tipperary; a vase was found in the same grave. Two adults and a child were identified in an encrusted urn (and vase) burial at Nevinstown, Co. Meath.

Kavanagh (1973) provides a general account of the encrusted urn burial rite: where evidence exists, it shows that these urns were normally placed in the grave in an inverted position. However, as Kavanagh has noted, the Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, and Brownstown, Co. Kildare, urns were apparently placed mouth upwards and Chancellorsland, Co. Tipperary, possibly so. The Knockast urn should be mentioned here, for it had apparently been placed on its side in a space between the stones of the cairn. In every case where the contents of the urn were recorded they were cremated human bones. It seems probable that, as O'Kelly and Murphy (1961) pointed out in the case of the Ballagharea, Co. Cork, urn, the bones may have been contained in some sort of organic container in the urn, or that at least the mouth of the urn was stopped in some fashion before it was turned upside down. It is recorded that an inverted cordoned urn from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow, had its mouth stopped with a sod. According to a 1912 account, the Bealick, Co. Cork, urn was inverted over a vase containing the cremated remains, but this appears to be quite an exception. Occasionally encrusted urns rested on stone slabs (e.g. Kavanagh nos. 9, 43, 44, 77, 78 and 86) and sometimes the upturned base may have been protected by a slab (e.g. nos. 49 and 40). Unfortunately,

particulars of grave form are too often vague; of 56 reliably recorded urn burials, 31 (55.4%) were in pits, 25 (44.6%) in cists; 11 of these 25 were in polygonal cists, 9 in rectangular or nearly rectangular cists, and 5 in cists of which no details are available. The grave types thus compare reasonably well with those of vase urns (where cist and pit enjoyed a comparable popularity), though a slight preference for pit burial is apparent. Encrusted urns in pit graves were often entirely unprotected, e.g. Collon, Co. Louth (Fig. 72), where the urn was inverted in a simple cylindrical pit. Occasionally the pit was stone-lined; what Kavanagh describes as 'a roughly-built stone grave' at Tara (burial 9) was, judging from the published photograph, just such a stone-lined pit grave. The 'crude form of cist' and the 'crude cist structure' which contained, respectively, the Gortavehy, Co. Cork, and Kilbarry, Co. Cork, urns, should be considered as stone-lined pits. Such pits are usually distinguishable from polygonal cists by the flimsy stonework. Close-Brooks *et al.* (1972, 126) distinguish in Scotland between 'stone settings packed round cinerary urns' and miniature box-like cists. Needless to say, the practice of defining graves by features which they do not have is undesirable and the use of such terms as 'uncisted' and 'partially cisted' (Flanagan 1976), though sometimes understandable, is likely to cause confusion.

The preference of the makers of both the vase urn and the encrusted urn for pit burial and, when cists are used, for polygonal cists, is the reverse of the preference of the makers of vases. Kavanagh (1973) observes that 'the large rectangular cist associated with an unburnt burial does not appear to be represented among those protecting a cremation with or without pottery vessels'. The opportunity which the rite of cremation provided, to construct smaller though equally secure graves, was certainly availed of. However, on occasion, sizeable rectangular cists were built, even for encrusted urns: the cists of this type in Burgage More, Co. Wicklow, and Corkragh, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 98), each measured about 76cm in length by some 40cm in width, while the cist in Kilwatermoy, Co. Waterford (which contained two encrusted urns), is said to have measured about 120cm in length and 90cm in width.

Kavanagh also notes the occasional occurrence of pairs of encrusted urns in the one grave, as at Tara (nos. 59–60), Kilwatermoy, and, possibly, Comber, Co. Down. Pairs of vases (e.g. Letter-

keen, Co. Mayo, burials 1 and 2) and, possibly, of vase urns (e.g. Ticknock, Co. Dublin) have also been recorded from the one grave. On six occasions encrusted urns have been found in megalithic tombs: in three wedge tombs, two passage-tombs, and one court tomb. In four instances the urn burials were evidently secondary, in one instance no particulars are available. Only in the case of the Loughash, Co. Tyrone, urn has primary association with a megalithic tomb been claimed (Davies 1939, 254); the urn was allegedly associated with Beaker and Kilhoyle pottery.

As we shall see when cemeteries are examined, pottery of the Vase Tradition is of fairly frequent occurrence in flat cemeteries and cemetery mounds.

THE CORDONED URN TRADITION

Over eighty finds of cordoned urns are now recorded in Ireland and this figure includes finds from a number of habitation sites (ApSimon 1969). Kavanagh (1976) has published a useful corpus of the funerary finds, although not all the urns she categorizes as cordoned are certainly so (her no. 10, for example, is a vase urn). This urn type is characterised by one or more external horizontal cordons encircling the vessel; decorated examples usually have one zone of ornament on the upper exterior and while incised designs occur, cord-impression is the commonest decorative technique. Excluding the cordons (on some pots the cordons mask junctions in the coil-building process and on others they are purely decorative), urn profiles are either simple or bipartite. Rims may be simple (flat or rounded), or bevelled internally; internal cordons may occur (Fig. 3). Apart from a small group of possibly hybrid vessels (e.g. Kavanagh 1976, 'collared urns' nos. 19, 27, 33 and 35), cordoned urns (both in Ireland and Scotland) are typologically distinct from collared urns. They deserve to be considered a separate urn tradition, as Longworth (1984, 44) has quite correctly claimed.

Particulars of the cordoned urn burial rite are known in some fifty instances. While the information available sometimes consists of unhelpful statements such as 'found in a cairn', in some forty-two cases where the grave type has been recorded, thirty-seven are stated, or may be inferred, to have been simple pits, and five to have been cists. Few of these cists have been described in any way; one, on Inisheer, Co. Galway, may have been polygonal; two, in Monasterboice, Co. Louth, and Corkragh,

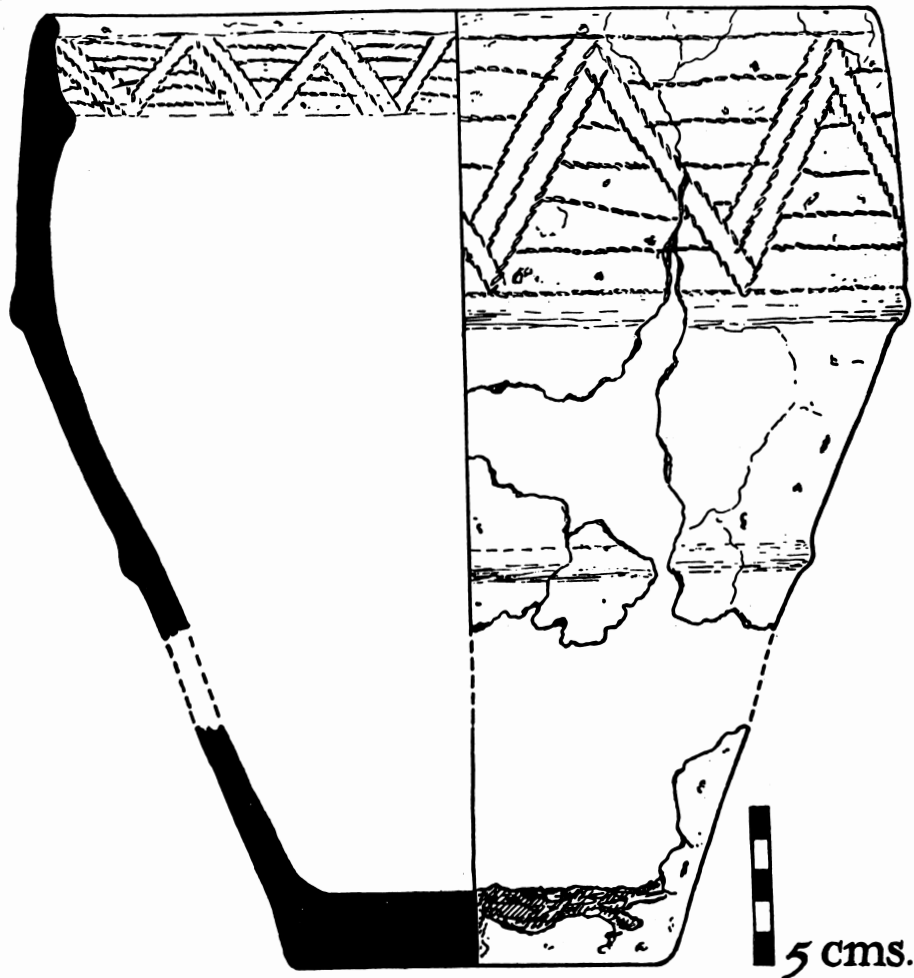


Fig. 3. Pottery of the Cordoned Urn Tradition: urn from Laheen, Co. Donegal (after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

Co. Tyrone, were short, rectangular cists. The majority of the pit graves appear to have been unprotected; stone packing is recorded in two cases (Knockast, Co. Westmeath, and, possibly, Cush, Co. Limerick, urn 2: Fig. 69); in four instances the mouth of the pit was covered, or protected, by one or more slabs, and in two instances the mouth of an upright urn had been covered by a stone slab. One pit (Smarmore, Co. Louth) is said to have been partly rock-cut and some five urns are recorded as having been inverted on stone slabs.

The positioning of some thirty-four of the urns from pit graves has been recorded: twenty-five had been inverted, eight had been set mouth upwards, and one (Harristown, Co. Waterford, urn 1) was found lying on its side. Of the five urns found in cists, one was inverted and one was mouth upwards (two others were possibly mouth upwards; no information at all is available about the position of the fifth). The association of a vase with the Corkragh cordoned urn suggests the possibility that it was the Vase Tradition which prompted the use of a rectangular cist. Be that as it may, the normal cordoned urn burial may be described as the pit burial of the inurned cremation. Eleven, possibly thirteen, cordoned urns were found in seven or nine flat cemeteries; unfortunately, the majority of these sites are very badly documented. Some seven urns are known from five cemetery mounds. An exceptional feature of this urn tradition is the occurrence in tumuli at Carrowjames, Co. Mayo (tumulus 2), Pollacorragune, Co. Galway (Fig. 56), and Farta, Co. Galway (Fig. 54), of cordoned urns containing the principal, and sometimes the only, burial. One urn in Urbalreagh, Co. Antrim, was discovered inverted at the centre of a small ring ditch (Fig. 11).

Cremations of adults both male and female have been found with cordoned urns: males at Urbalreagh, Crossgare, Co. Derry, and Harristown, Co. Waterford; possible or certain females at Oaten-cake, Co. Cork, Gortfad, Co. Derry, and Aghascrebagh, Co. Tyrone. The bones of children have also been found: at Harristown and at Fourknocks III, Co. Meath. At Gortlush, Co. Donegal, an urn contained the burnt bones of one or two adults and a child.

THE COLLARED URN TRADITION

Details of the collared urn burial rite have been adequately summarised by Kavanagh (1976, 300). In every case where any particulars of the human

remains have been recorded, these had been cremated. The majority of urns had been inverted in a pit (Fig. 4); a few were placed in cists, two of which were roughly rectangular (Carnduff, Co. Antrim, Tara, Co. Meath, no. xxiii) and one possibly polygonal (Glarryford, Co. Antrim). A number of these urn burials come from flat cemeteries and Kavanagh rightly draws attention to the relatively small number of collared urns from tumuli. Bones of men, women and children have been found with urns of this tradition. The cremation from Gortcorbies, Co. Derry, was of an adult male. The bones found with the Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim, vessel were those of an *adult female*; here a barbed and tanged flint arrowhead was also found in the urn, and presumably because this seemed an inappropriate funerary offering for a woman the excavator suggested this object may have been the cause of her death. The bones of a young adolescent and a child were identified at Castlerichard, Co. Cork, and Killeenaghmountain, Co. Waterford, respectively, and at Creggan, Co. Antrim, a collared urn held the burnt bones of three individuals, an adult female, a child and an infant.

* * *

A review of the burial rites of the four, Bowl, Vase, Cordoned Urn and Collared Urn, Traditions is a convenient way of summarising the varied funerary rites of the Irish earlier Bronze Age. In spite of this variety, several general patterns are evident. Unburnt burial and cremation appear to be of equal status in the Bowl Tradition, cremation is the dominant rite of the Vase Tradition and appears to be the invariable custom of the other two urn traditions. As we have seen too, short rectangular cists are a characteristic grave type of both the Bowl Tradition and of the vase burials of the Vase Tradition; polygonal cists are a noteworthy grave type of the urn burials of the latter group. However, not all burials contain pottery and such burials cannot, of course, be assigned to any tradition. They are numerous: for example, just under 50% of cist graves are without pottery. It may be that an aceramic cist grave containing a crouched burial such as Rahinashurock, Co. Westmeath (Plate 2), should be attributed to the Bowl Tradition, but no certainty is possible. Indeed it remains far from clear whether any of those pottery and grave types represent a distinct population group as is sometimes assumed: funerary variety may reflect religious or social caste or may be merely one

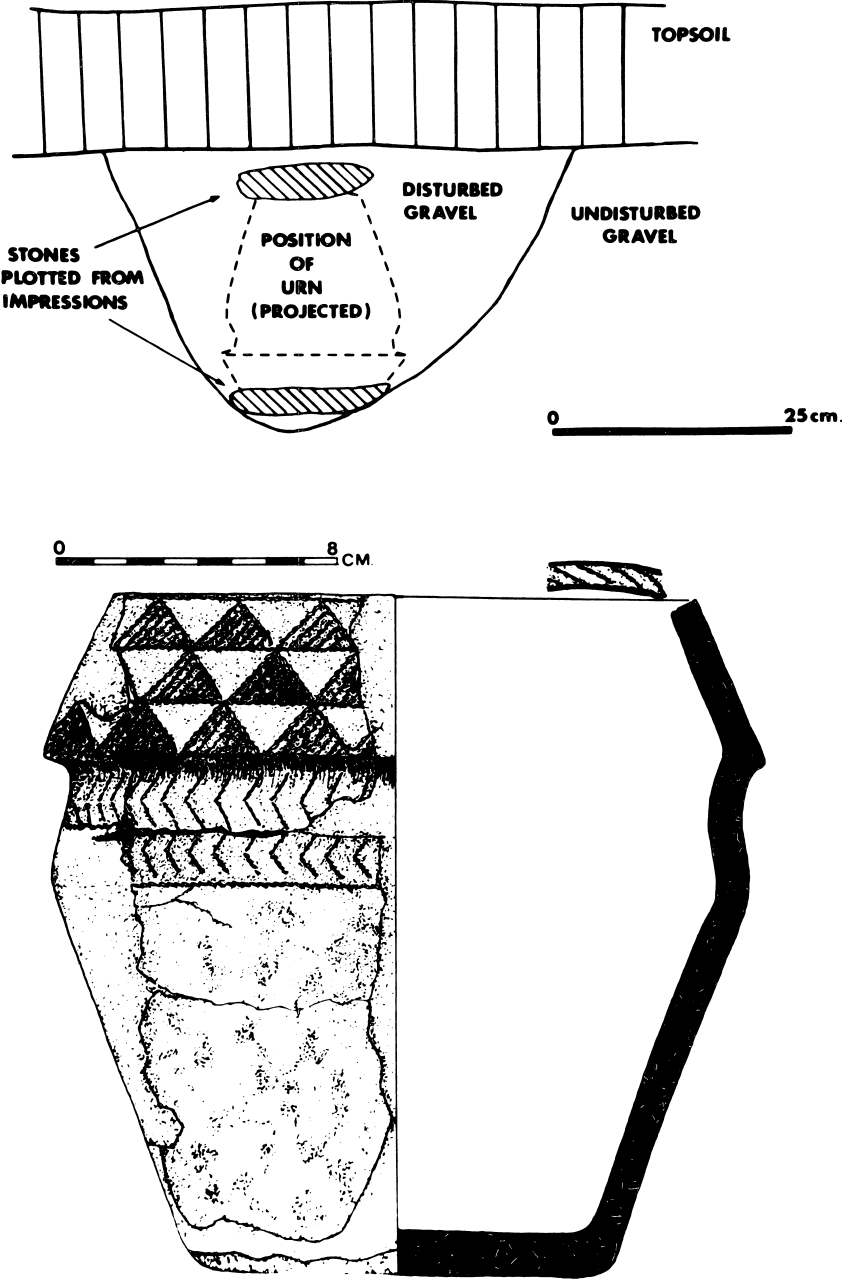


Fig. 4. Pottery of the Collared Urn Tradition:
urn from a pit-grave at Killeenaghmountain, Co. Waterford (after Ryan).

facet of a flexible and variable series of funerary options perhaps reflecting the past achievements, the present status or even the future aspirations of the person concerned.

CIST AND PIT GRAVES

In a short study of Irish cist graves (Waddell 1970) I alluded to over 600 examples. Some 700 examples are mentioned in the gazetteer in Part 2 and the numerical increase, due both to new discoveries in the interval and to further culling mainly of the nineteenth-century literature, calls for no modification of the classification outlined or (aside from the final paragraph) of the general comments then made. Short cists, at most large enough to contain the crouched corpse of an adult, are the commonest type. Of rectangular or approximately rectangular plan, they are usually constructed of four stone slabs set on edge and roofed with a capstone (Fig. 5:1). A flat slab or several small slabs may sometimes form a floor. Some, such as grave 6 in the Keenoge, Co. Meath, flat cemetery (Plate 1) are of fairly massive construction. This particular example had an internal length of almost 1m, its floor was carefully paved with some forty-one flat stones and it was roofed with a number of oversailing slabs. In contrast, grave 7 in the same cemetery was a small rectangular box of four slabs measuring about 33 by 25cm internally and containing the unburnt remains of an infant. It is tempting to think that the larger the cist the greater the status of the individual therein. This may well have been the case at this site but, as with other significant variations in burial practice, our knowledge is so fragmentary that no general explanation can be confidently advanced. Double cists occur occasionally as do compartmented or segmented cists (Fig. 5:3); they have been briefly studied by Glover (1975). Some half a dozen long cists may be dated to the Bronze Age. Several, such as Kilkenny, Co. Roscommon (Fig. 5:2), contained cremated bones even though large enough to hold an extended skeleton. An unburnt and seemingly extended skeleton was found in Cave townland, near Knockma, Co. Galway. As we have seen, polygonal cists (Fig. 5:4) usually just large enough to contain a cremation in an urn seem to be a feature of the urn burials of the Vase Tradition. However, larger polygonal cists containing unburnt burials are also known, e.g. Carrickballydooley, Co. Donegal, and Ballynagallagh, Co. Limerick (Fig. 65). As already mentioned, since the stone-built

cist undoubtedly had the better chance of being recognised on casual discovery, the number of recorded pit graves (and other unprotected burials) may well be misleading and the majority have been poorly documented. In form they appear to have varied from oval or sub-rectangular examples sufficiently large to accommodate the crouched corpse of an adult (e.g. Halverstown, Co. Kildare) to small, circular pits just large enough to receive a cinerary urn or a deposit of cremated bone. Only a few long pits (i.e. pits large enough to take an extended adult) can be dated to the earlier Bronze Age: in Gortcorbies, Co. Derry (Fig. 30), such a pit contained a cremation, a collared urn, and a fragment of a bowl; in Drimnagh, Co. Dublin, a long pit contained a bowl and a cremation. A long pit (which measured 180cm in length) in Lisnagat townland, Co. Antrim, contained sherds of a collared urn—cordoned urn hybrid, but no bones; and one in Sonnagh Demesne, Co. Westmeath, which contained a headless extended skeleton, was very close to a short cist with bowl and cremation. Long pits in Fassaroe, Co. Wicklow (Keenan *et al.* 1944) and Lough Gur townland, Co. Limerick (S. P. Ó Ríordáin 1954, 437) are less certainly Bronze Age and are not listed in Part 2. The date of the five extended burials found near a vase and a cremation in Knockmant, Co. Westmeath (Fig. 114), must also be considered uncertain. The same has to be said of the extended burials found associated with beaker and vase or bowl sherds in Gortnacargy, Co. Cavan, because some of the sherds were also scattered over a wide area and not demonstrably contemporary with the graves (A. B. Ó Ríordáin 1967). Most pit graves were simply protected holes in the ground, occasionally a few stones lined the pit (e.g. grave 2 at Oldtown, Co. Kildare), or the floor had been paved (e.g. grave 3 at Keenoge, Co. Meath: Plate 2), or the pit had been covered with a slab (e.g. Ballyconnell, Co. Wicklow: Fig. 124). It is conceivable that the human remains, burnt or unburnt, had been protected by organic materials or placed in perishable containers; traces of what may have been such containers have very seldom been recorded (see below).

Some burials seem to have been protected by neither cist nor pit, e.g. the scattered deposits of cremated bone above and near the cists in the Edmondstown flat cemetery, Co. Dublin (Fig. 44). Occasionally burials appear to have been simply incorporated (without further protection) in a tumulus in the course of construction, e.g. the

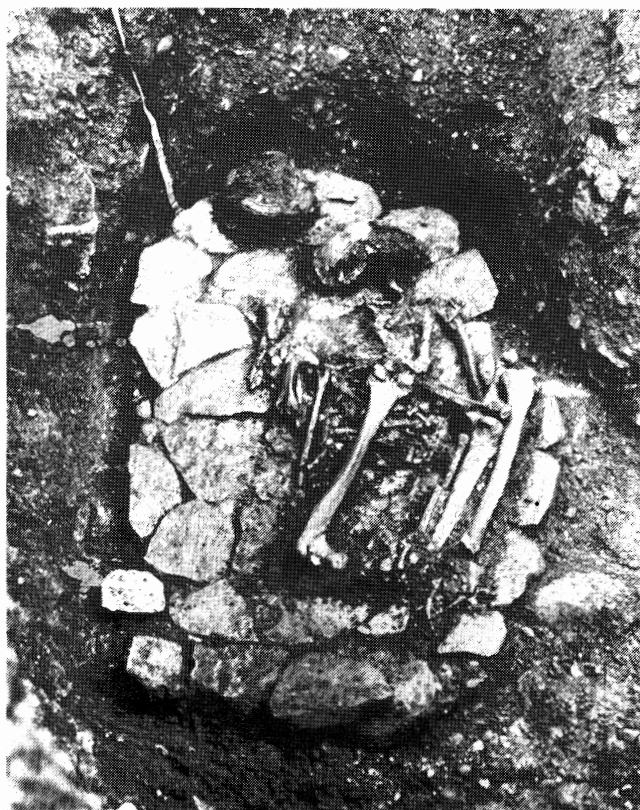


Plate 2. *Above.* Short rectangular cist on the edge of a gravel-pit at Rahinashurock, Co. Westmeath.

Below. Pit grave with paved floor, crouched skeleton, and a bowl.
A second bowl has been removed. Grave no. 3 in the Keenoge, Co. Meath,
cemetery. (Photographs: National Museum of Ireland).



Plate 3. Cist grave (no. 6) in the Keenoge, Co. Meath, cemetery,
in course of excavation in 1929. (Photograph: National Museum of Ireland).

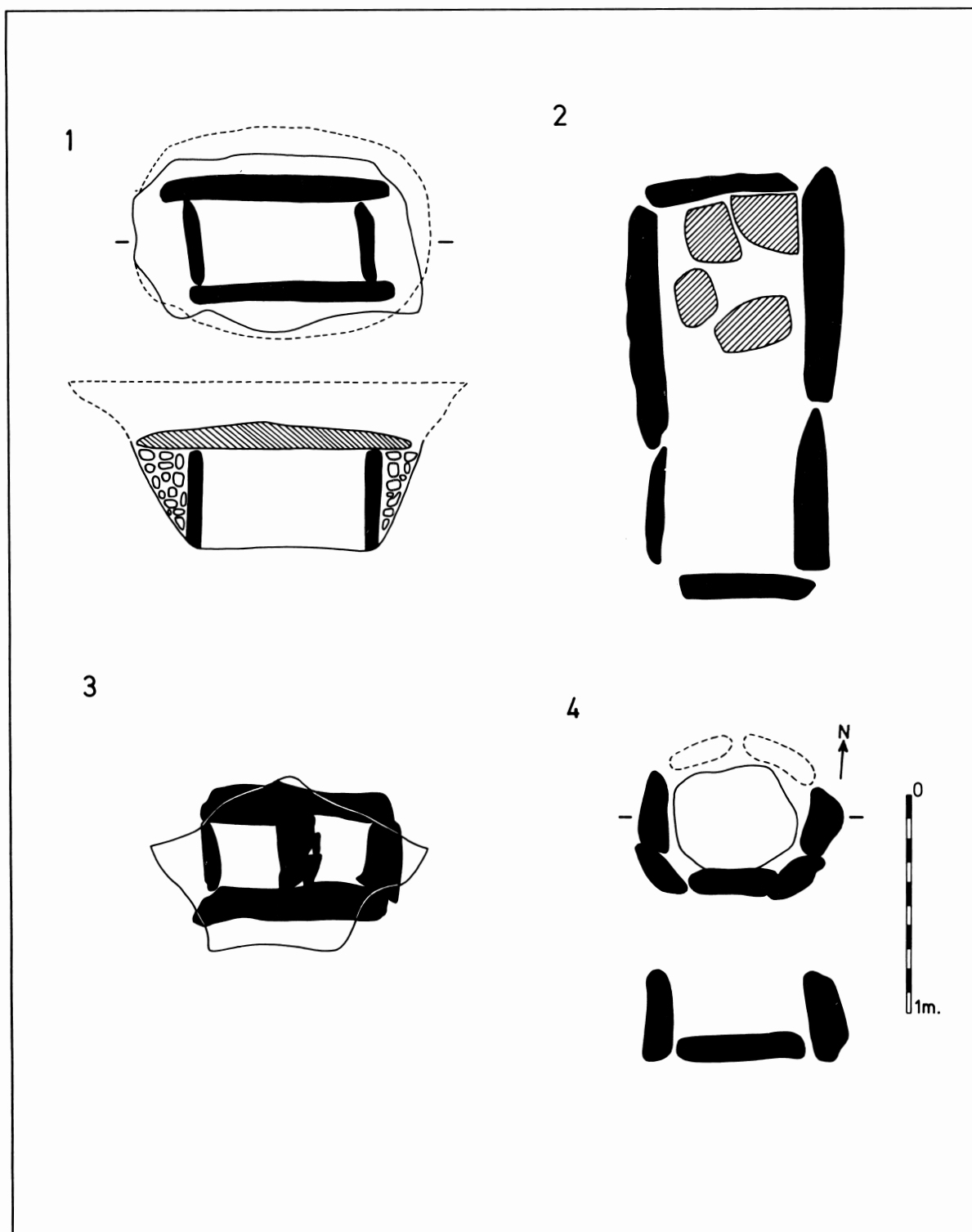


Fig. 5. 1. Short cist, Annagh More, Co. Wexford (after Hartnett); 2. Long cist, Kilkenny, Co. Roscommon (after Raftery); 3. Short compartmented cist, Letterkeen, Co. Mayo (after S. P. Ó Ríordáin); 4. Polygonal cist, Maganey, Co. Kildare (after Prendergast).

Table 1

<i>Adult males</i>	<i>on side</i>	<i>head to</i>	<i>facing</i>
Baunogenasraid, Carlow, no. 9	left	N	E
Sliguff, Carlow	right	N	W
Ballydullaghan, Derry	right	NW	SW
Drung, Donegal	right	E	N
Park, Galway	left	NE	SE
Knockast, Westmeath, no. 2	right	W	S
Rahinashurock, Westmeath	left	N	E
Blackditch, Wicklow	right	W	S
Haylands, Wicklow, no. 2	left	SW	NW
<i>Adult females</i>			
Drung, Donegal	right	SE	E
Ballsbridge, Dublin	left	NE	SE
Freestone Hill, Kilkenny	left	S	W
Fourknocks II, Meath	right	S	—
Ballicknahee, Offaly	right	E	N
Lug, Offaly, no. 2	right	W	S
Stonepark, Sligo	left	SE	SW
Crookedwood, Westmeath, no. 3	right	N	W
Ballybrew, Wicklow	right	E	N
<i>Adult of indeterminate sex</i>			
Baunogenasraid, Carlow, no. 1	left	E	S
Oldtown, Kildare, no. 2	left	NW	NE
Keenoge, Meath, no. 3	left	SE	SW
Keenoge, Meath, no. 6	left	NE	SE
Ballybrennan, Westmeath, no. 3	left	E	S
Redmondstown, Westmeath, no. 1	left	N	E
Redmondstown, Westmeath, no. 2	right	NW	SW
Riverstown, Westmeath	right	E	N
<i>Children and adolescents</i>			
Boherduff, Carlow	right	E	N
Edmondstown, Dublin, no. 1	right	E	N
Edmondstown, Dublin, no. 11	left	E	S
Kilcornan, Galway	right	SSE	E
Fourknocks I, Meath, no. 1	right	E	N
Fourknocks I, Meath, no. 3	left	E	S
Keenoge, Meath, no. 9	left	W	N
Treanmacmurtagh, Sligo	left	N	E
Ballybrennan, Westmeath, no. 2	right	S	E

collared urn burial in the Drimnagh, Co. Dublin, mound.

UNBURNT BURIAL AND CREMATION
Because of the general paucity of information, generalisations about the ratio of unburnt burial to cremation are not very enlightening. For example, in less than half the reports of cists has any distinction been made between unburnt and cremated bone. It would seem just at present to be a more feasible, and sounder, exercise to isolate, as I have sought to do, the characteristic burial modes of the four Traditions. I have already mentioned that the crouched unburnt burials of the Bowl Tradition displayed no orientation pattern which could be correlated with age or sex. Even a larger sample of crouched burials (including those not accompanied by pottery) is not particularly revealing and, not surprisingly, in only a fraction of cases have details of the orientation of the corpse been recorded. Thirty-five instances are listed in Table 1.

This simple analysis of the orientation of crouched burials reveals no pattern which may be correlated with any certainty with age or sex. With the clearly fortuitous exception of adult skeletons of unknown or indeterminate sex (the majority of which lay on their left side), neither adults of identifiable sex, nor children, are consistently orientated in any particular direction. The orientation of short cists themselves has also revealed no variations explicable in terms of burial rite, grave goods, etc. With a larger and more representative sample, or with a more detailed study of regional groups, it may some day prove possible to demonstrate conclusively the presence – or the absence – of significant patterns of orientation. Like any recurring feature of funerary custom, consistent patterns of orientation may be of chronological, social or cultural significance and thus of archaeological interest but, as in any area where the dictates of magic and religion were probably paramount, their study is fraught with difficulty. One possible problem is neatly illustrated by Ucko (1969, 273) who records that among one modern primitive African group there is a rule that the body should *not* face the village: 'however, there are some Ashanti who say that immediately after burial the body turns itself round to face the village. Some, but not all, Ashanti therefore bury the dead *facing* the village knowing that the body will turn itself round and will therefore eventually con-

form to the rule of facing the forest'.

The discovery of well-preserved unburnt burials offers exceptional opportunities for the study of past populations but relatively little detailed study has been undertaken of Bronze Age skeletal anatomy, pathology and mortality in Ireland. Several examples demonstrate what may be revealed. The skeleton of an adult male from a cist at Dungate, Co. Tyrone, showed signs of severe vertebral osteophytosis and arthrosis of other joints, an indication of a strenuous and physically demanding life. His skull bore a very rare congenital minor deformity, a 'Catlin' mark. Two skeletons from a small cemetery at Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath, each had a similar abnormality of the spine, possibly indicating that they were closely related members of the one family. An adult male with mild osteo-arthritis is reported from Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath, and an unfortunate individual from the cemetery mound at Knockast, Co. Westmeath, not only had chronic arthritis but had also suffered from a serious ear abscess. This seems to be a unique prehistoric instance of a mastoid infection. Because of the rarity of such cases in ancient remains, Brothwell (1961) believes that at least some of the common disorders of modern times such as influenza, scarlet fever and measles (which can initiate such ear trouble) were uncommon or absent among these earlier peoples. The leg bones of the latter and some such bones from Poulawack, Co. Clare, and Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow, displayed squatting facets indicative of a habitual squatting posture or hard muscular work. The skeleton of a middle-aged woman in the Poulawack cemetery mound showed marked arthritic changes and both she and an adult male there had abscessed teeth, as did another female from a cist at Carrownacon, Co. Mayo.

Evidence of injury or violent death has very rarely been noted. An adult male from a cist at Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow, had broken the tibia and fibula of his left leg some time before he died and the break had never healed. The death of a young adult female, found in a cist at Stillorgan, Co. Dublin, was due to a blow which fractured her skull. Although there is some testimony from a few graves in Britain that flint arrowheads and bronze weapons were on occasion successfully used with murderous intent, Irish early Bronze Age graves have yet to produce such traumatic evidence. One later Bronze Age instance is recorded: a socketed bronze dagger was discovered embedded in the

skull of an individual found many years ago in Drumman More, Co. Armagh (Waddell 1984).

In itself, neither unburnt burial nor cremation is of chronological significance. As far as can be seen, both rites were contemporary in the Bowl Tradition. The contemporary use of both rites in one and the same grave has been recorded: in cists in Ballicknahee (Co. Offaly), Oldtown, burial 2 (Co. Kildare), and Ballybrennan, burial 3 (Co. Westmeath), deposits of cremated bone had been carefully placed on top of crouched burials; the Ballybrennan skeleton was accompanied by a bowl. I have suggested that these cremations could conceivably be sacrificial deposits (Waddell 1970). A comparable mixture of ritual occurs in graves such as Cloghroak (Co. Galway), Ballyhackett Upper (Co. Carlow), Treanmacmurtagh (Co. Sligo), and Topped Mountain (Co. Fermanagh), but whether the burials in these cases were contemporary or not is open to question, the graves having been either poorly described or partly disturbed.

In the Knockast, Co. Westmeath, cemetery mound, a cist (no. 24) contained a cremation and a decayed pottery vessel; a subsidiary cist (no. 24a) contained the unburnt, disarticulated bones of a child mixed with cremated bones. Here the unburnt burial was almost certainly coeval with, or later than, the cremation. In Cuillare, Co. Mayo (Fig. 82), the unburnt, disarticulated bones of an adult male rested on the capstone of a cist which contained the cremation of an adult. This is certainly unusual. An unburnt burial at Ballynagallagh, Co. Limerick (Fig. 65), disturbed an earlier cremation. In contrast, instances of cremation post-dating unburnt burial are much commoner, e.g. the scattered deposits of burnt bone on the capstones of cists I and II in the flat cemetery at Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, and the cremation inserted into the central cist in the Moneen, Co. Cork, cemetery mound, etc. In cists in Annaghmore, Co. Wexford (Fig. 118), and Ballybrew (no. 2), Co. Wicklow (Fig. 123), unburnt skeletons of adults disturbed unburnt child burials. In cist 2 in the Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, cemetery mound, one unburnt child burial was deposited later than another. It is conceivable that some of the graves containing the cremated bones of more than one individual, now being recognised with increasing frequency (Ryan 1980), could in some cases contain successive burials and be further instances of the re-use of the one grave (as in a cist at Sroove,

Co. Sligo). That said, however, multiple simultaneous burial seems the most likely explanation in the majority of cases. This seems to have been the practice in a small cist in Beau townland, near Lusk, Co. Dublin, which contained the cremated bones of four adults and two children, and another in Newcastle, Co. Meath, which may have contained the bones of two or three adults.

Given the popularity of cremation, unambiguous traces of funeral pyres are surprisingly scarce: the remains of a pyre were found at Cloghskelt, Co. Down, and possible examples were recovered at Urbalreagh, Co. Antrim, Carrowbeg North, Co. Galway, Letterkeen, Co. Mayo, and beneath a tumulus of uncertain date at Cush, Co. Limerick.

While cremations were usually deposited in cists, pits, or urns, mention has been made of an unusual ritual recorded in the case of some dozen burials: a cist in Ballyduff, Co. Wexford, contained a faience bead, a vase and the cremated bones of two young adults; the bones were mixed through a 15 to 25cm thick deposit of clay; the vase rested on top of this fill which, as the excavator was at pains to point out, was not in-washed soil. A similar ritual has been recorded in graves at Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (cist II), Ower, Co. Galway, Aghnaskeagh, Co. Louth (cist I), Corrower, Co. Mayo (grave 7: Fig. 80), Letterkeen, Co. Mayo, Fourknocks III, Co. Meath, Kinkit, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 102), Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath, Ardballymore and Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford, and Ballynerrin, Co. Wicklow (Fig. 126).

It is perhaps reasonable to assume that the position of flat graves was marked in some temporary fashion – possibly a pottery vessel or two or some other offering left on the ground surface. More permanent grave markers rarely survive, only a few burials seem to have been associated with standing stones: Ballynaglogh, Cargan, Churchfield and Culmore, Co. Antrim (Fig. 9), Glenoge, Co. Carlow, possibly Castlequarter, Co. Donegal, Ballynamona, Co. Offaly, Reardnogy More, Co. Tipperary, Aghascrebagh (Fig. 95) and Broughderg, Co. Tyrone, and Corbally Beg, Co. Waterford. It is possible too, of course, that what we now call flat graves were originally marked by low mounds of earth or stone, the displaced earth from the pit being heaped over the grave. The burials in the Letterkeen, Co. Mayo, cemetery, were placed below ground level (as one might expect in a flat cemetery) but the excavator noted traces of what he thought was a cairn over one of the graves.

The stones overlying part of grave 6 at Keenoge (Plate 3) may also have been part of a small covering cairn.

GRAVE GOODS

Pottery is the commonest of a limited range of artifacts placed in a proportion of these graves. The various types of bowl, vase and urn have already been mentioned and grouped into four major ceramic traditions. The significance of the pottery types or traditions is uncertain and even though terms such as 'food vessel people' and 'urn people' have been used from time to time, pottery groups cannot at present be equated with any certainty with distinct population groups. It is possible that a 'Vase Tradition folk' or a 'Cordoned Urn people' may yet be identified and the discovery and excavation of a series of settlements of the period might throw considerable light on the problem. A few sherds of bowl have been found associated with two structures and a hearth on Coney Island, Lough Neagh (Addyman 1965, 84) for example, and fragments of cordoned urn are reported from several settlement sites (ApSimon 1969) including Downpatrick, Co. Down, where traces of two round houses were recovered (Pollock and Waterman 1964). Sites such as these seem to indicate that at least some of the pottery types found in burial contexts had domestic uses as well and were possibly the preferred pottery style of a particular social group. Some pottery, however, may have been made specifically for funerary or other ceremonial use and it will be interesting to see if ever an adequate sample of domestic pottery styles is obtained whether or not there are significant differences between the various funerary and domestic assemblages.

The different funerary uses to which the several pottery types were put raises many questions. Some unburnt or cremated individuals were accompanied by bowls or vases and some were not. Others were cremated and their remains placed in urns and some merited no pottery container at all. How far, if at all, the mere presence of pottery is a reflection of the status of the deceased, for example, is unknown. As already noted, the contents, if any, of bowls and vases (the so-called 'food vessels') remain a puzzle. Even if traces of some liquid offering are some day identified, the reasons for such a deposit may never be known. These and other grave goods are often thought to indicate a belief in an after-life, being some provision for the

needs of the dead. This is one possibility, but there are many others. Pots as well as other objects may be no more than tokens of the social or religious status of an individual or they may have been placed with the dead not for their benefit but for the protection and comfort of the living. In the latter case, they could conceivably reflect the status of the living rather than that of the dead. The archaeological evidence leaves us none the wiser at present.

Aside from pottery, items of stone, metal and bone occur occasionally in these graves. Many of these finds have been commented upon or listed by others – particularly when they have been found with pottery. Some finds have been mentioned by Harbison in various papers (1968, 1969, 1973). Simpson (1968) has summarised the main associated finds with bowls and vases and Kavanagh, too, has examined the associations of encrusted urns, cordoned urns, collared urns, and cups (Kavanagh 1973, 1976, 1977). Here it may be useful to briefly examine the other major categories of associated finds.

GOLD

Objects of gold have been reported in only four instances. Armstrong (1933) recorded three in his *Catalogue of Irish Gold Ornaments*: the small decorated band, probably a decorative attachment to the hilt of the Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh, dagger; four lunulae from Dunferth, Co. Kildare, found with 'bones'; and the small gold plates (one of which survives) said to have covered a skeleton buried with amber beads in a cave in Castlemartyr, Co. Cork. The fourth discovery, a gold armlet of Melfort type, has been published by Herity (1969): it was found early in the nineteenth century, together with a bowl or vase (lost) and 'bones and ashes' in Lisnakill, Co. Waterford. The vague nineteenth-century account of urn burials, in Mayne, Co. Louth, containing 'copper gilt' and gold fibulae, must be treated with due caution.

SILVER

The tin-plated silver ear-ring found in the 1940s with the crouched skeleton of a woman and the bones of a foetus in a pit grave in Rosnaree, Co. Meath, is a unique, and still unpublished, find. The ear-ring was formed of a narrow, penannular strip of silver bearing herringbone ornament on one flat surface; two fragments survive in the National Museum, Dublin, and a Bronze Age date is by no

means certain.

BRONZE

Typologically early, flat, triangular daggers have been found with bowls in cists at Corkey, Co. Antrim, and Carrickinab, Co. Down, with a collared urn at Creggan, Co. Antrim (Fig. 6), and with a vase urn at Oldtown, Co. Dublin. Grooved daggers, akin to Armorico-British types, have been found with a vase urn burial in the Grange, Co. Roscommon, cemetery mound and with a vase at Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh. Typologically more developed daggers with one or more midribs were found with two collared urn burials in the Mound of the Hostages at Tara (Kavanagh 1976, nos. 36 and 37). The latter cemetery mound also produced the well-known crouched burial with a small bronze knife (or 'razor'), a fragment of bronze wire (or an awl?) and a necklace of beads of jet, amber, faience and bronze tubing. An awl also comes from the Carrickinab cist and from a cist at Drung, Co. Donegal. A possible awl is recorded from a cordoned urn burial on Inisheer, Co. Galway, and from a cist in the Fourknocks II, Co. Meath, cemetery mound. A bronze knife and an awl were found with a vase in a cairn at Annaghkeen, Co. Galway. A dagger accompanied the skeleton of an adult male in the Ballyenahan, Co. Cork, flat cemetery.

Among metal finds, the only recurring pattern of association in the funerary record is the occurrence of about a dozen small knives or razors with cordoned urn burials: an indication of the distinctive nature of the Cordoned Urn Tradition. Ten bronze Class I razors have been found with as many urns and if the bronze fragments from Urballreagh, Co. Antrim, and two examples found at Kilmore, Co. Westmeath (in a single period tumulus which also produced one cordoned urn burial) are added, the figure may be raised to thirteen. The Irish examples of the Class I razors (of Butler and Smith 1956) have been reviewed by Binchy (1967), who retains the IA-IB subdivision (under the names 'razor-knives' and 'razors') though modifying the IA group to include blades having two rivet holes, or having two notches in place of rivet holes. To Binchy's list should also be added two examples from burials at Cush, Co. Limerick, one from Reardnogy More, Co. Tipperary, and a possible example from a tumulus in Burren, Co. Mayo, which was excavated in 1934. With the sole exception of the Class IB razor found at Pollacorragune, Co. Galway (Fig. 6), all the razors found with Irish cor-

doned urns may, with varying degrees of certainty, be assigned to Class IA. (The bronze fragment found with the urn at Gortereghy, Co. Antrim, may be portion of a Class IA razor; while the fragments found with Cush, Co. Limerick, urn 2, and with Hill of Rath, Co. Louth, are very probably so). Most of the Irish Class IA razors may be described as virtually tangless; where a tang is present, it is very short and broad and barely demarcated from the blade. Notwithstanding the fact that many are incomplete, the absence of a clearly demarcated tang suggests caution in comparing them either with the 'razor' matrices on stone moulds or with Continental narrow-tanged razors. Small tangless oval blades such as that from the Glenaree, Co. Limerick, burial (having a single rivet hole in the butt) are manifestly comparable to the few English and Scottish Class IA razors having possibly early associations (Butler and Smith 1956, 28).

In addition to the bronzes found with pots, a burnt halberd was found with a cremation in a short cist in Moylough, Co. Sligo, and a looped, kite-shaped spearhead was found with a small pottery vessel (lost) and bones in what was possibly a short cist in Ballysadare(?), Co. Sligo. A bronze axehead is recorded from a cist in Annahean, Co. Monaghan, a second from a cist at Knockinelder, Co. Down, and a third from the ditch of a tumulus at Carrowlisdoonaun, Co. Mayo. A 'brass hatchet' is said to have been found in a poorly recorded cist in Kilmonaster, Co. Donegal. Sixteen rivets came from one grave at Ballyenahan, and a bronze ring from a doubtful burial at Ballinluig, also in Co. Cork. 'Copper wire' is recorded from a probable urn burial at Castlesaffron, Co. Cork. An interesting but poorly documented find is known from Luggacurran, Co. Laois; here two bronze penannular bracelets and two (faience?) beads were found with one or two bowls; comparable bracelets are known from Scotland (*Inventaria Archaeologica* GB. 27). Sadly, these and the other metal finds from graves are either too few, or too poorly documented, to be of much help in resolving the problem of correlating the pottery and funerary traditions with the metalwork of the period.

FLINTS

The plano-convex flint knife is the principal flint implement type found with burials and it is now well over a quarter of a century since Hartnett's summary of the Bronze Age funerary associations

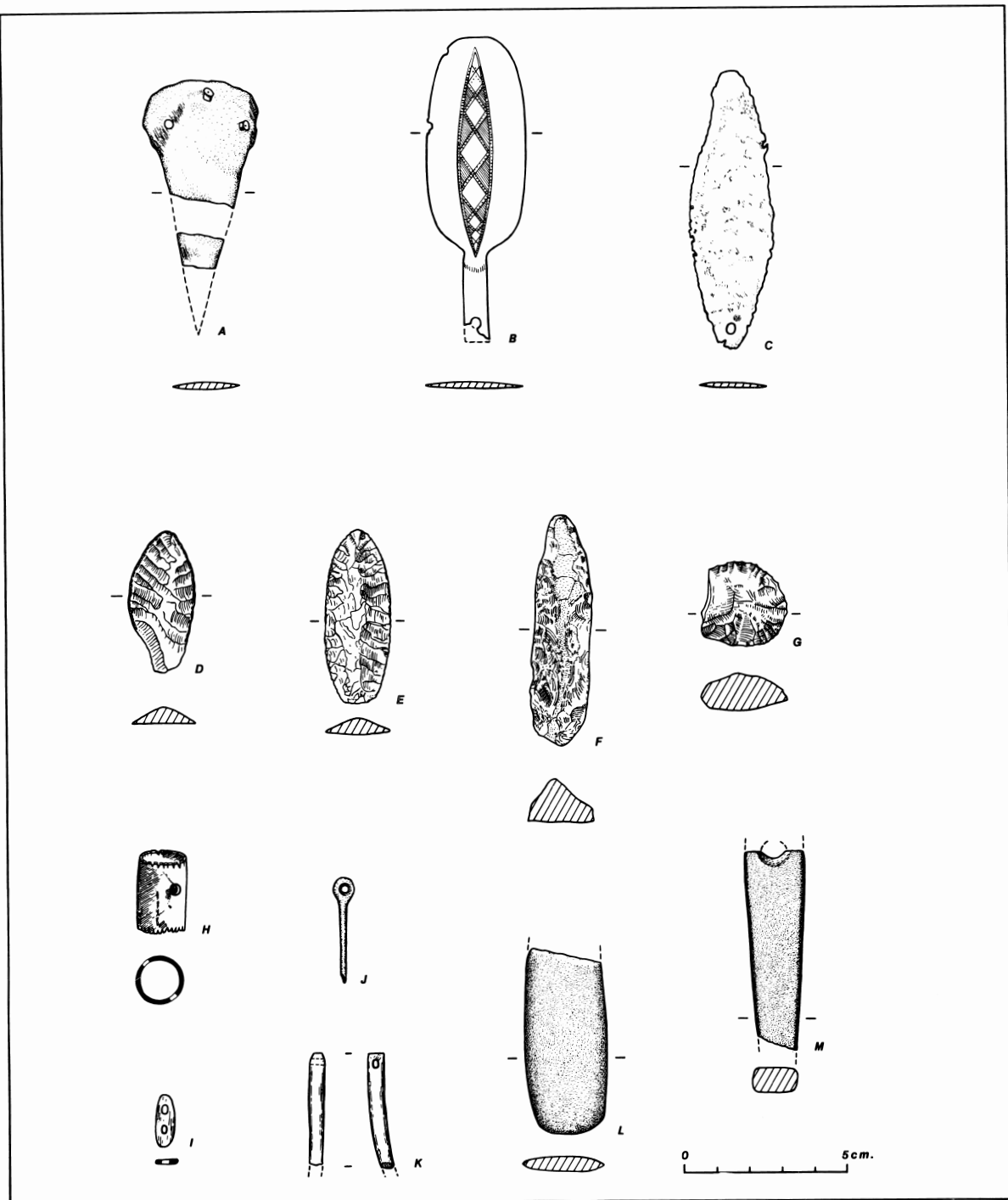


Fig. 6. Some finds of bronze, stone and bone. *A.* Bronze dagger: Creggan, Co. Antrim. *B.* Bronze razor: Pollacragune, Co. Galway. *C.* Bronze razor: Knockast, Co. Westmeath. *D.* Plano-convex flint knife: Edmondstown, Co. Dublin. *E.* Plano-convex flint knife: Killycarney, Co. Cavan. *F.* Flint fabricator: Cush, Co. Limerick. *G.* Flint thumb-scraper: Carrickbrack Co. Donegal (after B. Ó Ríordáin). *H.* Bone cylinder: Knockast, Co. Westmeath (after Hencken). *I.* Bone object: Killyneill, Co. Tyrone. *J.* Bone pin: Knockast. *K-M.* Bone needle, stone object and whet-stone from Hill of Rath, Co. Louth.

Table 2

Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim	a vase urn
Glarryford, Co. Antrim (2)	a cordoned urn, bone pin
Curran, Co. Antrim	a vase (Hartnett's 'Carrier Upper')
Galgorm Parks, Co. Antrim	a collared urn
Magheraboy, Co. Antrim	a vase and a vase urn
Killycarney, Co. Cavan	an encrusted urn
Gortcorbies, Co. Derry	a collared urn
Carrickballydooey, Co. Donegal	a crouched skeleton in a cist
Moville, Co. Donegal	a vase and a lost urn
Castlemahon, Co. Down	a cremation in a cist in a stone circle
Beau, Co. Dublin	cremations in a cist
Edmondstown, Co. Dublin	an encrusted urn
Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh	a vase and a vase urn (not a collared urn as Hartnett claimed)
Caltragh, Co. Galway	two vase urns
Carrowbeg North, Co. Galway	a cremation in a cist in a tumulus •
Cloonteen, Co. Galway	a cremation in a cist
Corrandrum, Co. Galway (2)	a vase
Brownstown, Co. Kildare	an encrusted urn
Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny	a cremation in a cist
Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo	a cremation in a cist
Fourknocks II, Co. Meath	a cremation in a cist
Carryglass, Trillick, Co. Tyrone	a bowl
Dun Ruadh, Crouck, Co. Tyrone	a cremation in cemetery mound
Knockast, Co. Westmeath	a cremation and a razor
Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow	a bowl

of the Irish examples. He listed some fourteen associated finds and remarked that while in Britain such knives were mainly found with 'food vessels', the Irish pattern of association was not so clear-cut. His list demonstrated that the majority of Irish examples were indeed found with 'food vessels', in a majority of cases of the vase type; these knives were also found with collared and encrusted urns (Hartnett 1952, 160). Kavanagh, too, has drawn attention to the variety of pottery types associated with these flint implements (Kavanagh 1976, 311; 1973, 518). A few emendations may be made to Hartnett's list and several finds, noted in the literature since the 1950s, may now be added with some interesting results.

The Irish funerary association of these flints are summarised in Table 2.

Omitted from this list, of course, is the Derryniggin, Co. Leitrim, hoard (A. B. Ó Ríordáin 1958) in which two knives were found with two bronze axeheads. The finds of plano-convex knives accompanying pottery may be distributed by pot type as in Table 3.

Table 3		
		approximately
Bowls	(2)	12%
Vases	(5)	29%
Vase Urns	(4)	23%
Encrusted urns	(3)	18%
Collared urns	(2)	12%
Cordoned urns	(1)	6%
17 = 100%		

According to Hartnett the majority of plano-convex knives had been found with 'food vessels', mainly of vase type. In fact, it is now clear that more have been found with 'cinerary urns' than with 'food vessels'. This, however, merely confuses the issue, for no less than 70% of the flint knives were found associated with pottery of the Vase Tradition, a further indication of the essential unity of that tradition. The plano-convex knives from Moville, Co. Donegal, and Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow, have short tangs and might conceivably be regarded as flint versions of Class IB razors. However, the type may well have had a much earlier origin, as suggested by somewhat similar double-edged knives from Neolithic contexts which differ from the specimens normally found in early Bronze Age burials in not having the whole of the upper (non-bulbar) surface pressure-

flaked. Collins (1966) has emphasised that these poorly finished knives apparently had a long life, from Neolithic to Bronze Age times; an example (of triangular cross-section) was found with a bowl in Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone, one was found with several vases in Ballywilliam, Co. Down, and another comes from a grave in a cemetery mound at Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow. Both the latter knives and the better-finished plano-convex specimens may, in all probability, be regarded as an ultimately Neolithic element in the Bronze Age, for as Collins has shown, well-made pressure-flaked plano-convex flint knives are also recorded from Neolithic contexts.

Flint arrowheads are not particularly common; both leaf-shaped and barbed and tanged examples have been found in some half a dozen graves: Ballymacaldrack and Galgorm Parks, Co. Antrim, Claretuam, Co. Galway, Kilbroney, Co. Mayo, Knockmunnion, Co. Meath, and Rathmoon, Co. Wicklow.

Flint 'fabricators' and thumb-scrapers are fairly rare – so-called 'fabricators' or 'strike-a-lights' (e.g. D. L. Clarke 1970, 184) have been found with urn burials at Cush, Co. Limerick (Fig. 6), and Killycarney, Co. Cavan; a possible example comes from Poulawack, Co. Clare (grave 2). Thumb-scrapers have been recorded in the Hill of Rath, Co. Louth, cemetery, and from burials at Carrickbrack (Fig. 6), and Laheen, Co. Donegal, Keenoge, Co. Meath, and Edmondstown, Co. Dublin.

STONE

Stone axeheads are recorded from graves at Killycarney, Co. Cavan, Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh, Monasterboice, Co. Louth, a possible grave at Aghalahard, Co. Mayo and from Rathbarron, Co. Sligo. An axe-hammer and several saddle-querns and rubbing stones were found in the cemetery cairn at Moneen, Co. Cork, a saddle-quern also comes from Corrower, Co. Mayo. Stone battle-axes from burials have been studied by Ryan (1975) – three have been found with urns and cremations. A battle-axe from Clonmore, Co. Carlow, should perhaps be mentioned here: it was found with a flat bronze axe and a bronze pin 'beneath a stone'. Kavanagh (1976, 309) suggests that these objects were 'all apparently contained in a cist' and later describes the find as 'the burial at Clonmore' (1976, 326), but I know of no evidence to suggest anything other than a hoard. Whetstones have been found at Moneyrannel, Co.

Derry, Hill of Rath, Co. Louth (Fig. 6), and Kil-drum, Co. Galway. A perforated stone pendant was found in a cist at Carrownacon, Co. Mayo.

BONE

Objects of bone are varied but different forms of pins are the commonest type. A bone belt-hook was found, possibly with a bowl, at Killycarney, Co. Cavan, along with a miniature stone axehead; this bone object recalls, of course, the somewhat similar gold artifact from the celebrated Bush Barrow in Wiltshire. Four bone cylinders (and a fragment of a fifth) found with cremation no. 6 in the Knockast, Co. Westmeath, cemetery mound (Fig. 6) also find parallels in the bone mounts from the same Wessex barrow (Annable and Simpson 1964). A small flat oval bone object with two perforations was found in a cordoned urn at Killyneill, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 6), and similar, doubly-perforated, small flat pieces of bone have been found with several Scottish cordoned urns: Murthly, Perthshire (*Catalogue of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland* 1892, EQ3), Woodhead of Garvocks, Perthshire, and Balnabraid, Kintyre (Callander 1923, 156, fig. 15: 12 and 13). A lozenge-shaped piece of bone with four perforations from a cordoned urn burial at Kinneil Mill, Stirlingshire (Marriott 1968, 93, fig. 4) resembles the similar fragmentary piece from a cremated burial at Rahinashurock, Co. Westmeath (Harbison 1973, fig. 10:6). A perforated bone plaque comes from Freestone Hill, Co. Kilkenny; it was found with a vase and a cremation, and two small skewer-like bone pins may have accompanied another cremation there; another bone pin and a bone cylinder were stray finds in the cairn. A large bone point comes from Poulawack, Co. Clare (grave 2); one was also found in the Moneen, Co. Cork, mound.

Bone pins are a fairly frequent find and the majority are perforated and large enough to be considered as possible dress fasteners. A small perforated example from the Hill of Rath, Co. Louth, may have been a needle (Fig. 6). A bone pin from Glenoge, Co. Carlow, was found with an 'urn' at the base of a standing stone and other pins from more certain funerary contexts come from Glarryford, Co. Antrim, Coolnahane and Labbamolaga, Co. Cork, Gortcorbies, Co. Derry, Killylinchy, Co. Down, Caltragh and Corrandrum, Co. Galway, Greenhills, Co. Dublin, Donaghmore, Glenga and Kinkit, Co. Tyrone, Harristown, Co. Waterford, and Rahinashurock, Co. Westmeath.

Fragmentary pins were stray finds in the Moneen, Co. Cork, and Knockast, Co. Westmeath, cemetery mounds (Fig. 6). While most, though by no means all, of these bone pins have slightly expanded and perforated heads, the latter pin from Knockast and that from Glarryford, Co. Antrim, can be described as 'ring-headed' and are presumably bone versions of a bronze type well known on the Continent (Gerloff 1975, 251). The exterior of the Glarryford ring-head is grooved and this grooving recalls that on the 'crutch-headed' specimen from Caltragh, Co. Galway.

A small tubular piece of bone from Letterkeen, Co. Mayo, has been described as a pin. It resembles a larger tubular bone found with a small bone spatula in the Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, flat cemetery (cremation no. 5). Bone pendants or toggles come from Labbamolaga, Co. Cork, and two (?both of bone) from Graney West, Co. Kildare. Graves at Poulawack, Co. Clare, Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny, Ballinvoher, Co. Cork, Gortnahown, Co. Galway, Keenoge, Co. Meath, Barrettstown and Knockast, Co. Westmeath, have produced boar's tusks.

BUTTONS AND BEADS

Buttons rarely occur in Irish Bronze Age graves and the few recorded V-perforated examples have been published by Harbison (1976) and Glover (1975). Beads of various materials are slightly more common but necklaces are quite rare, token deposits of one or two beads being the usual practice. A necklace of beads of faience, amber, jet and bronze tubing was found with the well-known crouched burial in the Mound of the Hostages cemetery mound at Tara. One of the graves in the Keenoge flat cemetery, also in Co. Meath, contained a necklace: forty jet beads were found near the skull of a crouched skeleton (grave 13). Jet beads were found in a cist grave at Oldbridge, Co. Meath, and a possible necklace is recorded from Skerry East, Co. Antrim. Faience beads have come from Knockboy, Co. Antrim, Ballyduff, Co. Wexford, Tara, and Harristown, Co. Waterford; the lost 'bluish beads' from Luggacurran, Co. Laois, may have been faience too. Other beads (some of other materials) have come from Carnduff and Loughloughan, Co. Antrim, Dundrum, Co. Down, Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, Grange, Co. Roscommon, Glenga, Co. Tyrone, Harristown, Co. Waterford, Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath, and Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow.

Amber is surprisingly rare in these graves – the find in the Mound of the Hostages has been mentioned and an amber bead (and a fragment of sheet gold) survive from a burial at Castlemartyr, Co. Cork. A biconical cup from Dromara, Co. Down, was apparently found with a larger urn and an amber bead and an unprovenanced vase urn in the National Museum of Ireland is also recorded as having been found with 'a ball or bead of amber'. There is some slight evidence to suggest that this urn is the larger Dromara vessel. I have no information about an intriguing passing reference to 'one large amber bowl found in a tumulus in Ireland' (Hughes 1901, 38).

OTHER ORGANIC MATERIALS

It is not surprising that remains of other organic materials have rarely been recorded. Traces of rush matting were found in cist no. 1, Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow, which contained a crouched skeleton and a bowl; the impressions of *Carex* or *Juncus* stems were preserved in an encrustation of carbonate of lime on some of the paving slabs of the cist. According to the records of the National Museum of Ireland, grave no. 6 in the ill-recorded flat cemetery of Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo, was a rectangular cist containing a cremation placed in a 'grass container'; unfortunately no further details are given. 'Decayed matter' covered the cremation in grave no. 7 in the Fourknocks II tumulus, Co. Meath, and two pit graves in the tumulus at Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow, contained traces of an organic, possibly wood, lining. Carbonized wood, considered to be the remains of a wooden tray, was found in a grave in Bealaclave, Co. Tipperary. What may have been decayed organic material was noted beneath the head and upper body of a crouched skeleton in a pit (grave no. 1) in Halverstown, Co. Kildare.

MISCELLANEA

The occasional occurrence of small finds such as mollusc shells (e.g. oyster at Stillorgan and Palmerstown, Co. Dublin, and mussel at Claretuam, Co. Galway, and Kinard, Co. Mayo) is recorded in Part 2. So too are finds such as a piece of fossil coral at Stonepark, Co. Mayo, hazel nuts at Knocknacart, Crossgare, Co. Derry, blackberries at Aghnaskeagh, Co. Louth, one or two pot sherds (e.g. with a cordoned urn at Laheen, Co. Donegal, and Cush, Co. Limerick) or a fragmentary vessel (as at Corkragh, Co. Tyrone and Caltragh, Co.

Galway), and nondescript flint flakes (e.g. Knock, Co. Down), all presumably token deposits. A pear-shaped clay object is reported from Creggan, Co. Antrim, and a perforated ball of baked clay from Dooley, Co. Antrim.

Instances of what may have been ritual destruction or breakage are also known, as well as the not infrequent calcined flints (e.g. Caltragh, Co. Galway), perhaps ritually burnt in the funeral pyre. A vase from Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny, may have been burnt in this fashion. The dagger found in Grange, Co. Roscommon, and one razor found at Knockast, Co. Westmeath, had each been twisted out of shape before deposition; the distorted daggers found with collared urns at Tara (Kavanagh 1976, nos. 36 and 37) had apparently been burnt in the funeral pyre, as was the halberd from the Moylough, Co. Sligo, cist. Lastly, the biconical cup in Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow, had been damaged before being placed in the grave.

Danaher (1964) has recorded several burials of ox bones possibly of early Bronze Age date: one comes from a mound at Ballyeeskeen, Co. Sligo. Other animal bones are occasionally reported (e.g. possible dog at Carryglass, Co. Tyrone).

Inconsequential as these minor details of ritual may seem, they illustrate further something of the wide range of ritual activity to be recognised. Nowhere is this range more clearly in evidence than in the cemeteries.

MOUNDS AND CEMETERIES

While many burials seem to have been isolated single interments, over half the recorded number come from sites which have yielded several graves. It is true that some isolated burials may some day prove, on further investigation, to be but one of a group, others may be the remnants of destroyed and unrecorded cemeteries. That not all burials were grouped in small or large cemeteries, however, is demonstrated by the fact that an occasional tumulus or cairn has been found to cover just one grave. Few have been scientifically excavated. A low mound (surrounded by a ditch and bank) covered one vase urn burial at Lissard, Co. Limerick (Fig. 70) and another mound (without an encircling ditch) at Pollacorrugane, Co. Galway (Fig. 56) produced a cordoned urn burial. A tumulus at Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath, seems to have contained just one cist burial, as apparently did a pair of mounds (with ditches) at Crannogue, Co. Tyrone. An oval mound with kerb at Lough-

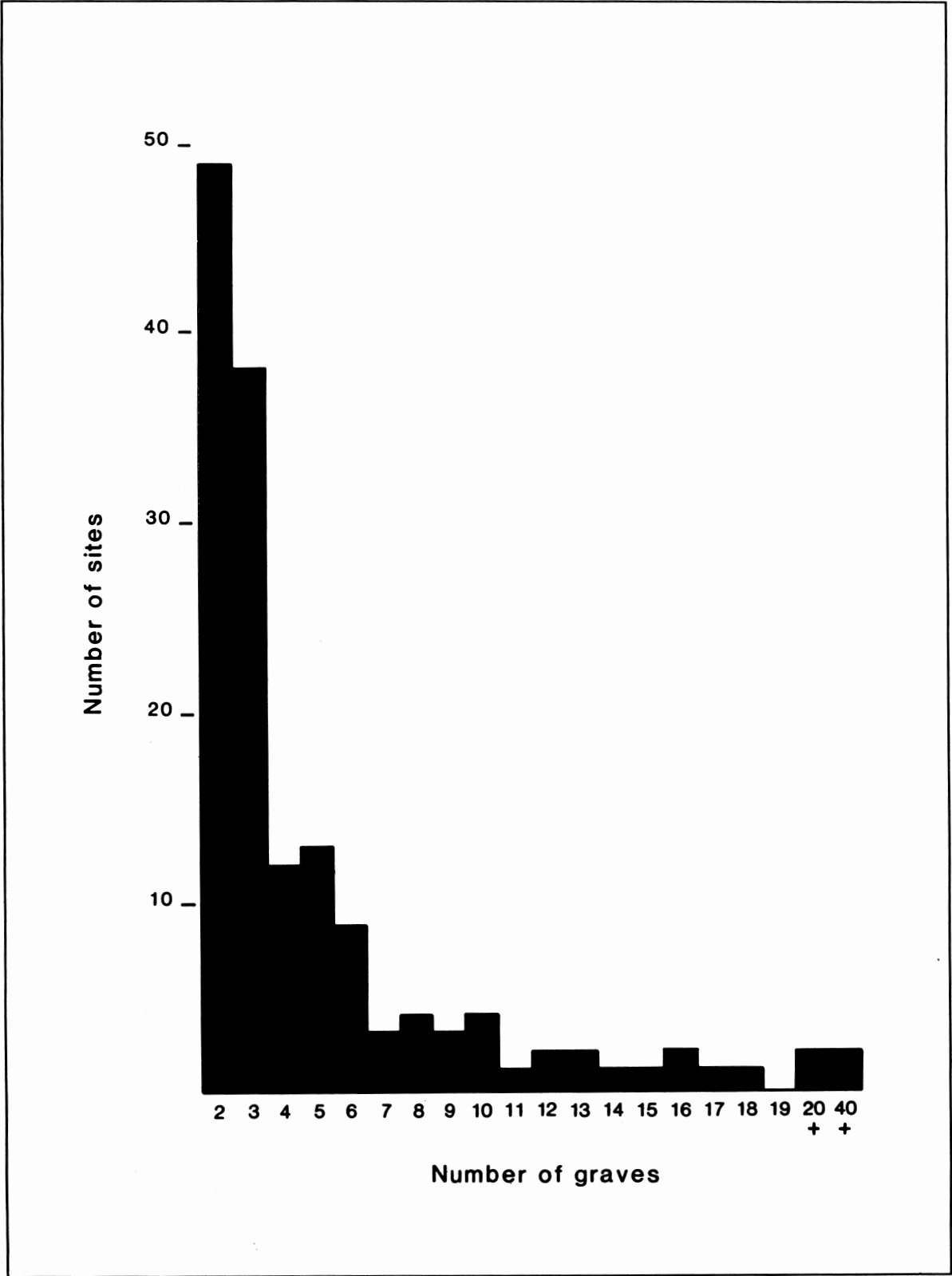


Fig. 6A. Numbers of graves in Bronze Age cemeteries.

fad, Co. Donegal (Fig. 37), covered a segmented cist containing the disarticulated burnt bones of two adults. Burial mounds containing two graves are known. Tumulus 2 at Carrowjames, Co. Mayo, contained two burials: a cremation in a cordoned urn was found in a pit at the centre (seemingly dug when the mound was half built) and a scattered deposit of cremated bone was found in the south-eastern quadrant. A cairn at Tibbradden, Co. Dublin (Fig. 46), covered a central cist and a second burial in an urn was found in the body of the mound.

As well as burial mounds with ditches, it is worth noting that mounds with ditch and external bank (like Lissard) occur from time to time. A small tumulus at Carrowlisdoonaun, Co. Mayo (Fig. 76), with ditch and external bank, covered traces of fire and contained a cremation; a flat bronze axe was found in its ditch. A disturbed mound at Pubble, Co. Derry, also had encircling ditch and bank, and a mound at Lemonstown, Co. Wicklow, of similar type, has produced a bowl. This form of mound recalls the later 'ring-barrows' of the Iron Age (e.g. Carrowjames, Co. Mayo, tumuli 4 and 8).

Burials may be grouped in flat cemeteries, below ground level with no superimposed mound, or in cemetery mounds. The extraordinary variety of burial ritual so characteristic of the funerary record in general is well illustrated in both types of cemetery. The definition of a cemetery is not an easy matter. An arbitrary general definition has been suggested: 'three or more individual graves, related to one another by rite, grave goods, or simply by their close proximity to one another' (Waddell 1970, 99). Thus defined, flat cemeteries, for example, vary from sites such as Halverstown, Co. Kildare: three pits each containing a crouched skeleton, one accompanied by a bowl, to larger sites with a mixture of grave and pottery types such as Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (Fig. 44), where four rectangular cists, three containing crouched skeletons and bowls, one containing a cremation, were found along with some fourteen cremations mainly in pits associated with a variety of pottery including encrusted urn and collared urn. Enclosing ditches or banks have not been recorded, except at Urbalreagh, Co. Antrim (Fig. 11), where three cremations, one in a fine cordoned urn, were found at the centre of a small perianth ditched enclosure.

If this definition is employed, cemetery mounds would include sites such as Carrowjames, Co. Mayo (tumulus 3), where a low mound, surrounded by a ditch, contained three cremations: a

central pit contained a cremation in a cordoned urn, a second cremation was scattered above and around the urn, and a third was scattered in the upper levels of the mound. At Moneen, Co. Cork (Fig. 25), a mound, with kerb, covered a large central cist and three satellite cists, and two pit burials were also found beyond the edge of the mound. In contrast, the well-known cemetery mound at Knockast, Co. Westmeath (Fig. 112), had neither kerb nor centrally placed primary burial but contained over forty burials. At several sites, such as Fourknocks I, Co. Meath (Fig. 83), and Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow (Fig. 14), Neolithic mounds were enlarged to cover Bronze Age burials.

As far as cemetery mounds are concerned, Lynch (1971, 54), with some justification, would prefer to exclude mounds covering a primary burial and several satellite graves, in other words, mounds which were built for multiple simultaneous burial. Of course, such collective burial sites should, if possible, be differentiated from cemeteries displaying a sequence of burials but given the difficulty of this task, a broad definition embracing all varieties seems more useful. Even at the general level, there are problems. Flanagan (1976) has suggested that two graves should be the diagnostic minimum, and this figure has as much to recommend it as three. Mindful of the inadequacies of the archaeological evidence, a study of some 150 sites with what would seem to be reasonably well attested numbers shows that finds of two graves are commonest (32.6%), followed by three (25.3%).

The evidence, such as it is, is tabulated in Fig. 6A and is summarised in Table 4.

If sites with only two and three graves are surprisingly numerous (almost 58% of the total), it is equally surprising that small cemeteries with four to ten graves (32.1%) and larger cemeteries with eleven to nineteen graves (7.4%) are so relatively infrequent. Only four cemeteries (2.6%) contained twenty or more graves. There is no great difference between the number of sites with two graves and sites with three graves, but there is a puzzling difference between the number of sites with three and four graves (from 25.3% to 8%). While a simple numerical definition of a cemetery (such as a site with a minimum of four graves) would be an asset, it does not seem practical at present and would only obscure the fact that smaller groups of burials are so common. For the present,

Table 4										
No. of graves	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
No. of sites	49	38	12	13	9	3	4	3	4	1
No. of graves	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20+	40+
No. of sites	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	2	2

if the term ‘cemetery’ is generally applied to all these sites, it may, in time, prove possible to differentiate between them on more than a numerical basis. At the moment the term embraces an extraordinary diversity of burial sites from Ballyven-naght, Co. Antrim, and Camaghy, Co. Tyrone, containing only two graves, to Knockast, Co. Westmeath, and the Mound of the Hostages, Tara, Co. Meath, containing just over forty. (The figure of 150 to 200 ‘urns’ attributed to the cemetery mound or flat cemetery on the Hill of Rath, Co. Louth, may be greatly exaggerated).

Cemeteries containing merely a few burials could only have served a fraction of one small community. It is possible that formal burial was an honour accorded only to a few or perhaps one family or small community possessed several burial sites in their locality. Another possibility is that some of the small sites with two or three burials and containing a variety of pottery types may have served some purpose other than that of the mere disposal of the dead. A flat cemetery of three burials at Crossgare, Co. Derry (Fig. 28), produced three graves: two cremations each with a bowl and a third cremation in a cordoned urn. In a tumulus covering a Neolithic grave at Drimnagh, Co. Dublin, there were four secondary burials: a cremation accompanied by a bowl, a cremation in a collared urn and two disintegrated, unburnt aceramic burials. If the burials are broadly contemporary at sites such as these and if the different pot types represent different communities, then the graves might represent some communal ceremony: perhaps to placate the other world, or to strengthen a social or political alliance. However, the occurrence of different and broadly contemporary pottery types on the one site might also reflect the practice of exogamy (Hawkes 1967, 204): a woman from another community being interred with the pottery of her people. The detailed study of a greater body of skeletal material may some day prove or disprove this suggestion.

The excavators of a number of cemetery mounds have thought several or all of the graves to be con-

temporary. At Poulawack, Co. Clare (Fig. 19), for example, four cists were considered to have been put into the cairn when it was being built and the four cist graves in the mound at Moneen, Co. Cork (Fig. 25), were also thought to have been constructed at the one time. The nine graves in the Corrower, Co. Mayo, cemetery mound (Fig. 79) were all made at the same time according to J. Raftery (1960, 89). At sites such as Moneen some graves may have coincided with a particular stage in the history of the monument and the occurrence of the disarticulated unburnt remains of two adults and a child in cist no. 4 there is a reminder that some corpses had been stored elsewhere until an appropriate time for final interment. Thus the funerary continuity sometimes detectable may not simply reflect a steady funerary continuum from generation to generation. A short but very interesting series of burials was also observed at Moneen: a pit containing a cremation and fragments of at least one bowl (placed some distance from the mound on the south-west) was disturbed by the diggers of a section of ditch which enclosed an en-crusted urn burial. A remarkable feature of the latter pit burial was the fact that the arc of ditch which enclosed it had been added to a ceremonial ring-ditch which pre-dated the mound.

The disarticulated burials in cist no. 4 in the Moneen cemetery mound indicate a complex burial ritual, but whether these corpses were simply stored in a mortuary house or ossuary until they were naturally defleshed or were exposed either to the elements or to birds of prey is unknown. Each compartment of a segmented cist in a mound at Loughfad, Co. Donegal, contained disarticulated bones and this ritual has also been noted in grave 24a in the Knockast, Co. Westmeath, cemetery mound, at Cuillare, Co. Mayo, and possibly in cists at Carryglass and Donaghanie, Co. Tyrone, and Conranstown and Rathbennett Co. Westmeath.

Aside from Moneen, there is evidence from several other cemeteries, including the Grange, Co. Roscommon, cemetery mound and the Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, flat cemetery (Fig. 44),

that pottery of the Vase Tradition was deposited later than pottery of the Bowl Tradition. In the latter cemetery, the excavator concluded that some of the stones protecting an encrusted urn burial (no. 12) had been removed from cist no. iv, a subsidiary cist to no. iii which contained a bowl and cremation. A similar sequence occurred at Fourknocks I, Co. Meath (Fig. 83); the mound of a passage tomb, with an added secondary mantle of clay, contained eight Bronze Age burials; in one instance, an inverted vase urn burial had disturbed a cist containing an unburnt burial and a bowl. On the south-east of the Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim, cairn, an encrusted urn burial had disturbed a cremation accompanied by a bowl. The disturbance of an earlier burial by a later one is recorded in other cemetery mounds too; perhaps not surprisingly, it has rarely been noted in flat cemeteries, but then the great majority of these have been examined under rescue conditions or in a piecemeal fashion; the fourteen graves of the Keenoge, Co. Meath, flat cemetery (Fig. 85), for example, were discovered during the course of digging for sand in an esker over a seven-year period. A succession of burials has been recorded at Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow (Fig. 14), where a cremation overlay and disturbed an unburnt, possibly crouched, burial. At Poulawack, Co. Clare (Fig. 19), the four cists incorporated in the cairn during its construction were earlier than three other cists (one containing a cremation, the others unburnt bones) which had been inserted into the cairn itself. Finally, at Knockast, Co. Westmeath (Fig. 112), two, possibly three, burials disturbed others, and it was suggested that this mound may have served several succeeding generations.

A pattern of successive individual burials would be quite in keeping with the belief that these various cemeteries belonged to the one family group, to an extended family, or to one small community. However, too few studies have been made of the limited skeletal material: at present there is insufficient evidence to indicate whether or not some of the larger cemeteries were the burial place of a distinct family or other group. In the Poulawack, Co. Clare, cemetery mound, the ratio of five males to four females, with ten individuals of indeterminate sex all below fourteen years of age, was considered 'fairly normal' by Movius (Hencken and Movius 1935, 222). However, an unusually large number of young adults, from twenty-one to thirty-five years of age, were buried at Knockast,

Co. Westmeath; and at Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, of eight Bronze Age graves no less than four contained the remains of children, the identifiable bones representing five children and three adults. Thus, even in larger cemeteries, it seems possible that social and other factors may, on occasion, have dictated who was to be given formal burial and not all members of a particular family or community may have been entitled to this privilege.

As we have seen, the majority of cemeteries contain less than a dozen graves, and with the exception of the two excavated cemetery mounds (Knockast, Co. Westmeath, and the Mound of the Hostages, Tara) which are, at least at present, exceptional in containing over 40 graves each, there seems to be no marked difference in terms of numbers between flat cemeteries and cemetery mounds. In both, less than a dozen graves appears to be the commonest figure and both display a broadly similar range of pot type and burial rite. It is not possible to estimate what proportion of cemetery graves contained pottery; some cemeteries apparently contained none (e.g. Shantallow, Co. Derry: Fig. 31); others contained vessels of but a single tradition; yet others yielded pottery of several traditions. Only occasionally, in small cemeteries such as Creggan, Co. Antrim (three graves each with a collared urn), or Crossgare, Co. Derry (already mentioned), did every grave contain a pot. On rare occasions cemeteries contain pottery of just the one tradition: the Corrower, Co. Mayo, cemetery mound and, possibly, the small flat cemetery of three crouched skeletons – one accompanied by a bowl – in Halverstown townland, Co. Kildare, can be attributed to the Bowl Tradition. The small flat cemetery in Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow and, probably, Cloghselt, Co. Down (Fig. 41), and Letterkeen, Co. Mayo, for example, can be assigned to the Vase Tradition. That at Creggan, Co. Antrim, is of the Collared Urn tradition. Such cemeteries appear to support the individuality of these traditions but the great majority of cemetery mounds and flat cemeteries with pottery have produced a mixture of types, most commonly (in at least 66% of cases) a mixture of vessels of just the Bowl and Vase Traditions. A simple list of only those sites with reasonably reliably recorded numbers and, where appropriate, with identifiable pottery, illustrates the variety of major pot types (Table 5).

The numerous sites with an unknown number of

Table 5

CEMETERY MOUNDS

	<i>Site</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
Co. Antrim	Glenwhirry	3	2 bowls
	Loughloughan	3	2 bowls
	Lyles Hill	3	bowl, vase, encrusted urn
Co. Armagh	Roxborough	4	bowl
Co. Carlow	Baunogenasraid	10	bowl
Co. Cavan	Killycarney	3	bowl, encrusted urn
	Termon	4	5 vases
Co. Clare	Poulawack	10	
Co. Cork	Moneen	6	bowl, encrusted urn
Co. Derry	Cornaclery	4	3 bowls, cordoned(?) urn
Co. Donegal	Letterbrick	3	2 bowls
Co. Down	Mount Stewart	16	'pots', 5 bowls, vase
Co. Dublin	Phoenix Park	4	3 bowls
	Drimnagh	4	bowl, collared urn
	Kilmashogue	3	2 bowls, vase urn
Co. Fermanagh	Beihy	7	
	Doohatty Glebe	15	
	Topped Mountain	3	vase
Co. Kilkenny	Freestone Hill	16	bowl, vases
Co. Limerick	Cush	5	bowl(?), encrusted urn
Co. Louth	Aghnaskeagh	6	anomalous vessels
Co. Mayo	Carrowjames 3	3	cordoned urn
	Cashel	3	vase
	Corrower	9	5+ bowls
Co. Meath	Fourknocks I	8	2 bowls, 2 vase urns
	Fourknocks II	8	bowl, encrusted urn
	Mound of the Hostages, Tara	40	vases, encrusted urn, collared urn, etc.
Co. Offaly	Lug	9	2 bowls(?)
Co. Roscommon	Grange	13	bowls, vase urns
Co. Tyrone	Trillick	8	bowl
	Dun Ruadh	13	7 bowls, vase
Co. Waterford	Harristown	7	bowl, 3 cordoned urns
Co. Westmeath	Knockast	42	bowl, encrusted urn, 2 vase urns, cordoned urn
	Kilmore	4	cordoned urn
Co. Wicklow	Crehelp	3	2 vases
	Haylands	5	2 bowls
	Merginstown	'several'	3 bowls
	Powerscourt	6	'urns', bowl

FLAT CEMETERIES

	<i>Site</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
Co. Antrim	Ballymacaldrack	5	3 collared urns, vase, vase urn
	Creggan	3	3 collared urns
	Galgorm Parks	3	3 collared urns, vase
	Gortnacor	11	'urns', vase urn, encrusted urn
Co. Carlow	Urbalreagh	3	cordoned urn
	Ballon Hill	'several'	4 bowls, 13 pots of Vase Tradition, 3 collared urns, 1 cordoned urn (from a cemetery mound <i>and</i> a flat cemetery?)
Co. Cork	Strawhall	3	vase urn, 2 encrusted urns
	Ballyenahan	17	bowl, vase
Co. Derry	Crossgare	3	2 bowls, cordoned urn
	Cumber	'several'	'urns', 1 bowl
	Moneyrannel	6	'urns', cordoned urn
	Shantallow	6	
Co. Donegal	Carrontlieve	6	
	Drumhaggart	7	
	Drung	3	
Co. Down	Ballyrainey	4	'urns', 2 cordoned urns
	Cloghskeelt	23	Vase Tradition pottery, bowl sherd
Co. Dublin	Dundrum	12	'urns', cordoned urn
	Edmondstown	18	3 bowls, 2 encrusted urns, 2(?) collared urns
	Greenhills	5	2 bowls, vase, 3 vase urns, encrusted urn
	Jamestown	4	bowl, vase, encrusted urn
Co. Galway	Gortnahown	'several'	vase
	Kilcornan	3	2 vases
Co. Kildare	Brownstown	5+	4 bowls, 2 encrusted urns
	Halverstown	3	bowl
	Oldtown	3	2 bowls, vase urn, vase
	Ploopluck	4	4 bowls
Co. Kilkenny	Coolmore	4	vase
	Danesfort	'several' (2+)	2 vases
	Eskerty Bridge	3+	
	Kilcreen	3	
	Oldcastle	3	

FLAT CEMETERIES			
	<i>Site</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
Co. Limerick	Cush	5	cordoned urn, vase urn
	Knockadea	4+	cordoned urn, encrusted urn
Co. Louth	Hill of Rath	'several'	3 cordoned urns, encrusted urn
Co. Mayo	Ballinchalla	9	3 vases, vase urn
	Letterkeen	5	2+ vases
Co. Meath	Keenoge	14	bowls, vase urn, encrusted urn
	Kells	3	
Co. Tyrone	Martinstown	5	3 bowls, vase urn
	Ballyvadden	4	bowl
	Drumnakilly	10	vase urn, encrusted urn, collared urn
	Leckpatrick	5	4 vases, vase urn
	Stranagalwilly	3	bowls,
	Woodend	5	vase(?)
Co. Westmeath	Adamstown	5	
	Ballybrennan	4	vase, bowl
	Cartenstown	3	
	Crookedwood	5	
	Emper	12	
	Pallasboy	3	
	Redmondstown	3	bowl
	Sonnagh Demesne	3	bowl
	Killincooly More	3	'urns', vase urn
	Scarawalsh	6	vase, vase urn, 2 encrusted urns, 2 collared urns
Co. Wexford			
Co. Wicklow	Ballybrew	3	2 bowls
	Clonshannon	3	vase, vase urn, encrusted urn

burials and which produced 'urns' of unknown type are omitted from this list. Bearing in mind the very incomplete nature of the evidence, the following combinations of pottery traditions are represented in cemeteries with three or more burials: Bowl and Vase Tradition pottery occur in over twenty-one instances (in two cases cordoned urn also occurs, at Knockast, Co. Westmeath, and Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow; in one case, at Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, collared urn was also found). Bowl and Collared Urn Traditions are recorded at Drimnagh, Co. Dublin, and Bowl and Cordoned Urn at Cornaclery, Co. Derry, Crossgare, Co. Derry, and Harristown, Co. Waterford. Vase and Collared Urn Traditions occur at Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim, Scarawalsh, Co. Wexford, and possibly Drumnakilly, Co. Tyrone. Vase Tradition and Cordoned Urn comes from Cush, Co. Limerick, Knockadea, Co. Limerick, and possibly Hill of Rath, Co. Louth. Given the existence of what appear to be hybrid pots (e.g. Kavanagh 1976, her collared urn nos. 19, 27, 33, 35), the rarity of Collared Urn-Cordoned Urn combinations is puzzling; Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow, is the one possible instance.

The frequency of the Bowl and Vase Traditions and the infrequent occurrence of pots of the Collared and Cordoned Urn Traditions is, no doubt, a reflection of the numerical strength of each pottery tradition. The latter two traditions appear rather as an addition to cemeteries of Bowl or Vase Tradition or both. A plausible explanation can be offered for the more frequent Bowl and Vase Tradition mixture. As already indicated, in scientifically excavated cemeteries such as Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim, Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow, Poulawack, Co. Clare, Moneen, Co. Cork, Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, Knockast, Co. Westmeath, and Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, one or more burials were found to have disturbed earlier interments. It would appear that these cemeteries, at least, were used, even if intermittently, over a period of time. In the Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, flat cemetery (Fig. 44), one or two bowl burials may have formed the nucleus of the cemetery just as, if Ryan (1973; 1981) is correct, the irregular double cist at the centre of the Poulawack mound, Co. Clare (Fig. 19), was a nucleus, in a 'Late Neolithic' tradition, of a 'Bronze Age' cemetery.

In a few important instances Bowl burials were found to have been disturbed by burials of the Vase Tradition and while the two traditions may

have been, in part, coeval, it seems that the Bowl Tradition was eventually superseded by the Vase Tradition. I have suggested (Waddell 1976) that both of these traditions were, in the main, Irish developments, each containing, in differing degree, various Beaker and various native, non-Beaker, ceramic and funerary traits. Both traditions at least in so far as they share some common Beaker stimulus are therefore related. Is it surprising that the one cemetery should contain two such traditions? The picture presented by these mixed Irish cemeteries may essentially be one of broad cultural homogeneity and continuity.

* * *

All aspects of Irish Bronze Age burials require further study. Aside from the problems of typology and chronology posed by the various pot types and other grave goods, there is a pressing need to adequately document the casual discovery. The recovery of bones and pot is a laudable achievement, but the loss of detailed information on grave type and burial ritual is now a serious problem.

The scientific excavation of cemeteries is particularly desirable. Many of the flat cemeteries of unburnt burials from the midlands, such as Oldtown and Ploopluck, Co. Kildare, Crookedwood and Pallasboy, Co. Westmeath, are virtually unrecorded. At the very least such cemeteries provide a valuable corpus of skeletal material with the possibility of the identification of family or larger related groups of individuals.

Neolithic burial mounds re-used in the Bronze Age raise even wider questions; presumably their re-users had some sense of identity with the founders of these monuments, but it remains to be seen if any link emerges in the study of the human remains and other finds.

The great majority of burials noted in this study are provenanced to townland, but all too often no more precise location is known. Field-work and local enquiry may still reveal the exact find-spot of many old discoveries, a necessary exercise if regional groups are to be accurately identified and related to local topography and soil types. Some major regional groups may be readily identified: even a general distribution map of cist graves (Waddell 1970, fig. 3) demonstrates the existence of distinct concentrations of burials in several parts of the country. A general distribution map of all graves (Fig. 7) confirms this. In the western half of the country, interesting concentrations of graves

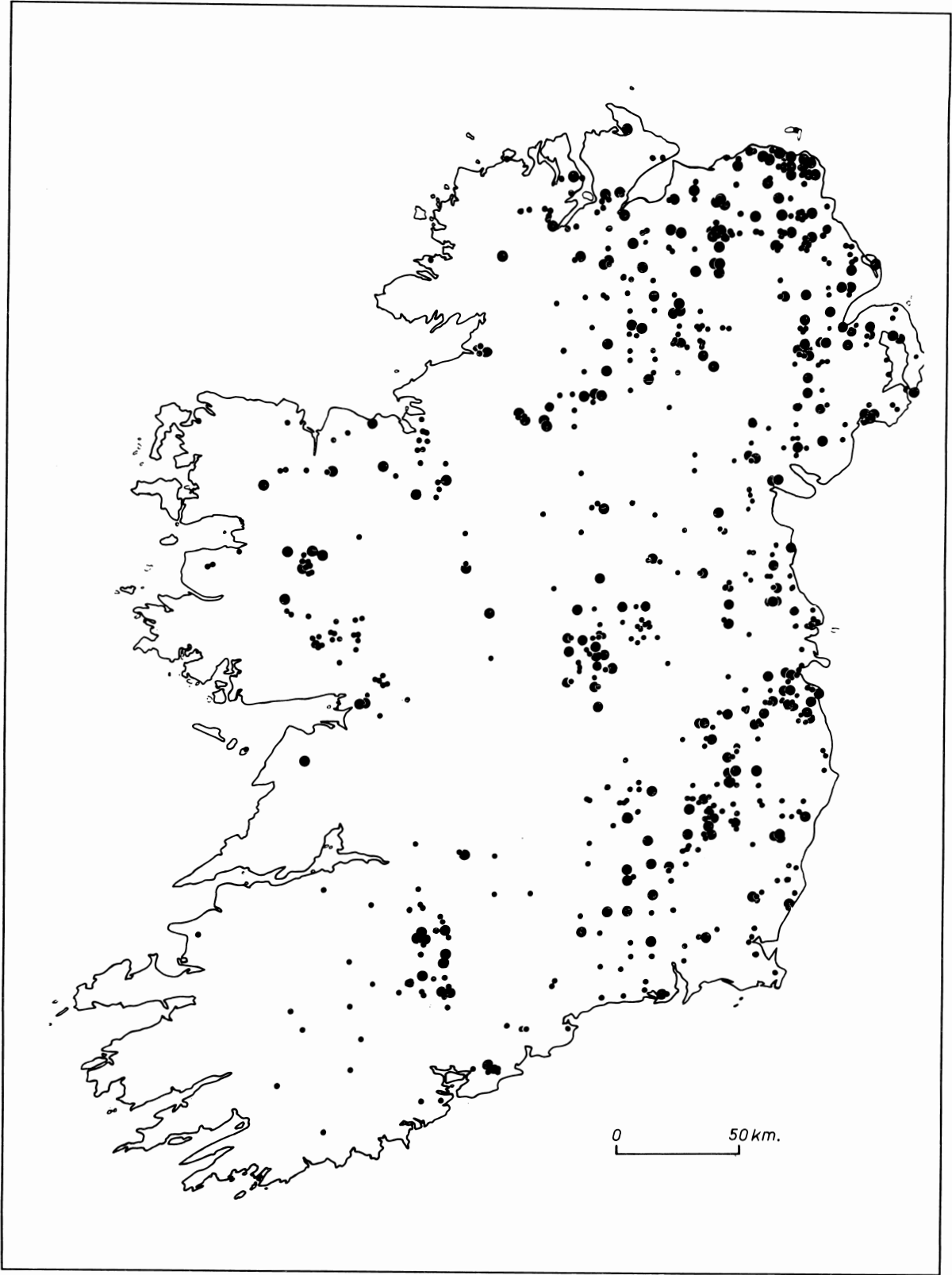


Fig. 7. General distribution of Bronze Age Graves. Larger dots represent more than one grave.

occur in Co. Sligo and south Mayo; two groups are clearly defined in Galway, one in the north of the county, the other just east of Galway Bay; another major group is to be seen in the south Limerick–north Cork region. The majority of burials are located in the eastern half of Ireland and here too, even on a diminutive map such as Fig. 7, significant clusters are apparent in north Antrim, various parts of Down, Derry, and Tyrone, mid Fer-

managh, south Westmeath, south Dublin, west Wicklow and north Carlow, and elsewhere. Regional studies will undoubtedly isolate others and perhaps provide a clue as the whereabouts of the settlements of which we are so ignorant. The identification of the exact location of old finds may also lead to the discovery and full investigation of further burials, enhancing our limited knowledge of this aspect of the prehistoric past.

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ABBREVIATIONS IN GAZETTEER AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

ANL	Archaeological Newsletter
Ant. Jour.	Antiquaries Journal
Arch.	Archaeologia
Arch. Camb.	Archaeologia Cambrensis
Arch. Jour.	Archaeological Journal
ASCD	<i>The Archaeological Survey of Northern Ireland. Co. Down</i> (1966)
BAP	Abercromby, J., <i>A study of the Bronze Age pottery of Great Britain and Ireland</i> (1912)
BAR	British Archaeological Reports
BMQ	British Museum Quarterly
CLAJ	County Louth Archaeological Journal
IARF	Irish Archaeological Research Forum
INJ	Irish Naturalists' Journal
J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.	Journal of the British Archaeological Association
JCHAS	Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society
JGAHS	Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society
JIA	The Journal of Irish Archaeology
J. Kerry A. S.	Journal of the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society
J. Kildare A. S.	Journal of the Kildare Archaeological Society
JRSAI	Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
J. Waterford A. S.	Journal of the Waterford Archaeological Society
NMAJ	North Munster Antiquarian Journal
NMI	National Museum of Ireland
O'Laverty	O'Laverty, J., <i>An Historical Account of the Diocese of Down and Connor</i> . Vols. I–IV (1878)
OS	Ordnance Survey
PBNHPS	Proceedings of the Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society
PPS	Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society
Praehist. Zeits.	Praehistorische Zeitschrift
PRIA	Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy
PSAMNI	Chart, D. A. (ed.), <i>A Preliminary Survey of the Ancient Monuments of Northern Ireland</i> (1940)
PSAS	Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
TDGNHAS	Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society
TRIA	Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy
UJA	Ulster Journal of Archaeology

PART 2

GAZETTEER OF BRONZE AGE BURIALS

Burials are catalogued by county and by townland. Spelling of place-names follows the *Census of Ireland Townland Index* (1901). References to the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 (six-inch) sheet (Fig. 8) are given and finds of encrusted urns, collared urns and cups are followed by the number in the appropriate *corpus* by Kavanagh (1973, 1976, 1977).

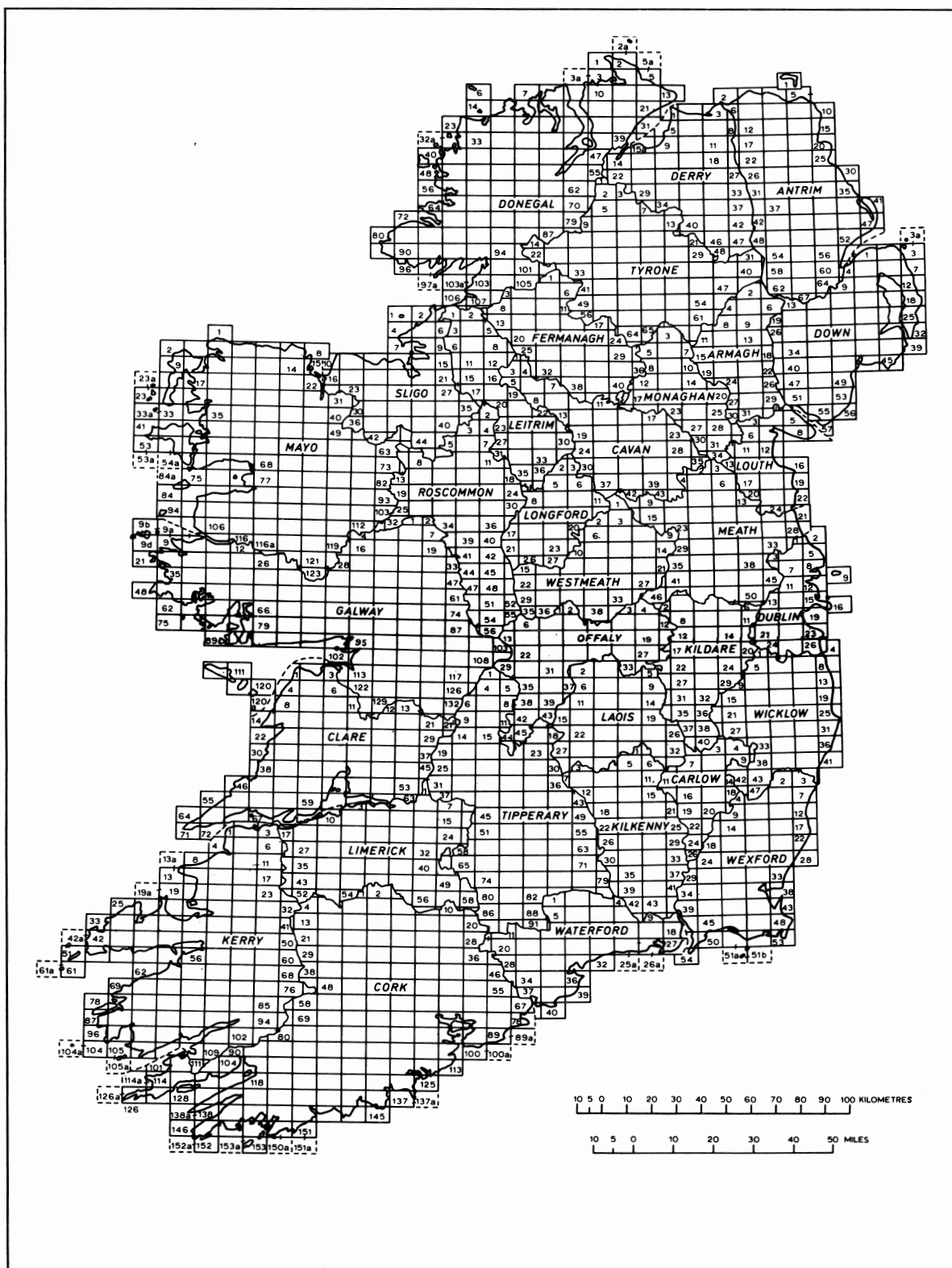


Fig. 8. Map of Ireland showing county six-inch (1:10560) Ordnance Survey sheets.
By permission of the Government. Permit no. 4510.

- ANTYNANUM, Co. Antrim. OS 29 (1862), 101. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.
Short rectangular cist found c. 1939; contained a 'white deposit': cremated bones? *UJA* 9 (1946), 130.
- AUGHNAMULLAN, Co. Antrim. OS 55/59
'A dozen earthen urns filled with bones' were found 'in a gravelly swell in this townland ... the urns were all broken when lifting them'. O'Lavery IV, p. xix.
- BALLINLEA, Co. Antrim. OS 8
'In 1875, there was found in a sand quarry a funereal urn containing decayed bones, it was covered by a flat stone'. O'Lavery IV, 329.
- BALLINTOY, Co. Antrim. OS 3/4, 7/8
Vase reportedly found with cremated bones: no further details available. *UJA* 29 (1966), 110; 32 (1969), 62.
- BALLINTOY, Co. Antrim. OS 3/4, 7/8
Small flat cemetery found before 1823: six 'urns' with cremations, each in 'a rude case of stones'; all the pots were inverted, one said to be 28cm high, another reportedly measured 8 by 10cm (a cup?). O'Lavery IV, 335. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 107.
- BALLSALLAGH, Co. Antrim. OS 24
Collared urn (Kavanagh 5) found in a pit, inverted and containing cremated bones. *JRSAI* 8 (1864-6), 133; 15 (1879-82), 297.
- BALLYALBANAGH, Co. Antrim. OS 39
A cairn known as the 'White Carn' covered a short cist 122 by 50cm high which contained a vessel (Neolithic?) and cremation. *JRSAI* 13 (1874-5), 375.
- Near BALLYCASTLE, Co. Antrim. OS 8
Collared urn (Kavanagh 1; Longworth 1984, no. 2197) 'found in a cist and containing cremated bones'; no further details. *BAP*. II, 22.
- BALLYCLOGHAN, Co. Antrim. OS 33
Bowl said to have contained a little 'ashes'. *UJA* 1 (1895) 91; 32 (1969), 59.
- BALLYCRAIGY, Co. Antrim OS 35
An urn 'of middle size' containing nothing but fragments of bones was found about 1862: no mention is made of a cist. The vessel is a bowl. *JRSAI* 7
- BALLYCRONAN MORE, Co. Antrim. OS 41
'About 1838, several richly ornamented urns were dug up ... about 300 yards east of the Cromleach ... (in Ballylumford td.). They contained only dust and very small fragments of bones. They crumbled away ...'. O'Lavery III, 143.
- BALLYELLOUGH, Co. Antrim. OS 63
'Digging in the vicinity of a 'Giants Grave' revealed 1½ foot beneath the surface, in circular stone buildings, 5 earthen urns, containing calcined bones and ashes; the urns rested on flagstones and were covered by flagstones, they were broken in raising them, but what remained of them was sent to Belfast Museum'. See Magheragall, Co. Antrim. O'Lavery IV, p. iii.
- BALLYGALLEY, Co. Antrim. OS 35
Vase found in the course of excavation of a rath, possibly from a destroyed cairn. *PPS* 24 (1958), 218. *UJA* 32 (1969), 62.
- BALLYGOWAN, Co. Antrim. OS 40/46
Earthen cinerary urns very rudely ornamented and containing ash and small particles of bones have been found in 'Bruce's Cairn' and in the vicinity of the druidical altars. Some of them were discovered with their mouth downwards and on being exposed to the atmosphere they mouldered away. OS Memoir Raloo parish.
- BALLYHAMAGE, near Doagh, Co. Antrim. OS 45/51
An earthen urn, found c. 1825, is described as 'of dark-red coarse clay, rudely ornamented'; it was full of cinders and covered by 'an arch or dome' of small stones. A stone axe and a flint arrowhead were also found. Another urn containing 'cinders of bones' reported from the neighbourhood. A cup from Doagh is preserved (Kavanagh 2). A label from the Day Collection records that it was found beneath a stone cairn. Day 'purchased this unusually small urn from a dealer'; it contained an 'earthy substance' and the bones 'were got at the side of the urn'. *UJA* 4 (1856), 270 (1825 discovery).
- BALLYLIGPATRICK, Co. Antrim. OS 33
A large cairn on a hill was removed in 1831 and a cist two feet long and one foot wide 'constructed of five flagstones' was found, it held 'an ornamented

urn, capable of holding about a quart, which contained some ashes and bones'. Another cairn some 500m to the north contained a similar cell. O'Laverty III, 437.

BALLYMACALDRACK, Co. Antrim. OS 22
A small flat cemetery contained 5 burials, the first two were discovered in 1934 and 1937, the rest in 1938; all were unprotected pit burials in glacial clay on a rocky knoll, 500 feet above OD. 1. Pit burial: collared urn (Kavanagh 4; Longworth 1984, no. 2199), placed mouth upwards, containing one worn flint flake and a few fragments of cremated bone representing one adult. 2. Pit burial: an inverted collared urn (Kavanagh 2; Longworth 1984, no. 2198) contained a burnt barbed and tanged flint arrowhead and the cremated bones of a young adult female. The excavator suggested the arrowhead may have been the cause of her death rather than a funerary offering. 3. Pit burial: inverted collared urn (Kavanagh 3; Longworth 1984, no. 2200) contained cremated bones (no details of bones). 4. Pit burial 'a few inches' from no. 3: Vase urn placed mouth upwards contained cremated bones (no details) and two burnt flint flakes, one a broken flake, and the other a worked plano-convex knife. 5. Pit burial: a vase was inverted and contained some cremated bones (no details) and a broken, flint flake. *UJA* 1 (1938), 219; 4 (1941), 63.

BALLYNAGARVY, Co. Antrim. OS 21
An inverted bowl, found in a gravel pit, may have accompanied 'bones', none of which were preserved. *UJA* 5 (1942), 95; 32 (1969), 59.

BALLYNAGLOGH, Co. Antrim. OS 5/9
Two cists were found near a 3 1/2-foot high standing stone, each was formed of flagstones and each contained a cinerary urn. O'Laverty IV, 483.

BALLYNALARGY, Co. Antrim. OS 67
In 1827, there was found 'an ornamented urn; it was protected by stones placed around it, and a flat stone resting on them'. O'Laverty IV, p. vi.

BALLYNASTRAID, Co. Antrim. OS 3/4/7
'There were found, about 1820, three ornamented funeral urns containing bones and ashes; they were covered by flat stones'. O'Laverty IV, 319.

BALLYTRESNA, Co. Antrim. OS 43
Vase urn, found inverted in a pit, resting on a flat stone, contained cremated bones and a flint knife.

INJ 3 (1930-31), 109. *UJA* 32 (1969), 42.

BALLYVENNAGHT, Co. Antrim. OS 9/15
Bowl from a cist in a round cairn with kerb; a second cist (no bones) also found. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59. *PPS* 23 (1957), 225.

BALLYWILLIN, Co. Antrim. OS 2/6
The removal, in 1891, of the capstone of a small cist, measuring about 18 inches in length and 12 inches in width, revealed 'two small urns, one on top of the other': a vase apparently bore a smaller bowl-shaped vessel as a lid. No further details of the grave are known; no mention of bones. *JRSAI* 21 (1890-91), 438. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61.

BELFAST, Co. Antrim. OS 61
At Pleasure House Hill, on the Malone Road, c. 1870 'in the process of cutting away the hill, several urns were found'. Several polished stone axeheads were found in the general area, some standing on edge in the sand. No further details available. Bronze Age? *JRSAI* 12 (1872-73), 138.

BLACK MOUNTAIN, near Belfast, Co. Antrim. OS 60
In 1829, 'a large urn filled with calcined human bones, a spear-head, and two ornaments of brass' were found in a cairn. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 193.

BROOMORE, Co. Antrim. OS 8/9
Several cinerary urns found in the 1830's; the mouth of each was covered with a flat stone. O'Laverty IV, 406.

CARGAN, Co. Antrim. OS 24
'Several sepulchral urns have been found in this neighbourhood; one, some years ago, near the great standing-stone in the townland of Cargan; and another, in a bank overhanging the Ravel river. In this latter case, the river had encroached on the land, so as to expose the urn to observation. In this situation it was seen by a person walking along the bank, and who, disappointed at not finding treasure in it which is the vulgar belief of the people, dashed it to pieces on a stone. These urns were both of small size'. *JRSAI* 6 (1860), 217.

CARNDUFF, Co. Antrim. OS 40
Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 2) found inverted in what was apparently a polygonal cist, situated in

the court of a court tomb. The urn contained the cremated bones of an adult. *JRSAI* 10 (1868–9), 350. *PRIA* 67 C (1968), 30.

CARNDUFF, Co. Antrim. OS 40

A cist, 'nearly a square', contained an inverted urn 38cm high (assumed to be a collared urn by Kavanagh, 6), comminuted (presumably cremated) human bones and 'a small perforated bead made of clay and glazed white'. *PRIA* 67 C (1968), 13, fn 4.

MIDDLE DIVISION, CARRICKFERGUS, Co. Antrim.

OS 45/52

'Within a circle of stones ... was found a number of urns, containing ashes and bones, over each urn was a large flat stone ... The urns were all broken from the weight of their covering stones. They were of course [*sic*] clay and were, each, capable of holding about six quarts. See Woodburn. O'Laverty III, 181.

'TROOPER LAND', WEST DIVISION, CARRICKFERGUS, Co. Antrim.

OS 46/52

In May and June 1839 a number of cists were found, some were paved. 'Within each grave broken urns of yellowish colour were found; they were filled with ashes and bones'. The discovery of an iron spear head, a stone mould for three bronze axes, flint arrowheads, a glazed and handled urn containing an iron spear head, are also reported. O'Laverty III, 75.

CHURCHFIELD (BARNISH), Co. Antrim. OS 9

A short cist measuring 3 feet by 2 feet by 1 foot 5 inches deep contained a vase and cremated bones. The pot was full of bones and covered with a stone. This may be one of the two cists with 'cinerary urns' found near a standing stone. The account in the OS Memoirs also mentions the discovery of 'a grave or vault' 8 feet long, 2 feet wide and 1½ feet deep some 7 yards away. This grave had a paved floor and contained 'decayed bones and ashes'. *PSAMNI* 12. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63.

CORKEY, Co. Antrim.

OS 18/19

Cist contained a bowl and a bronze flat dagger, bones were reportedly unburnt. No precise details. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 108.

CORVALLY, Co. Antrim.

OS 8/14

Three earthen urns filled with calcined bones and

ashes reported. O'Laverty IV, 428.

CRAIGAROGAN, Co. Antrim.

OS 51

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 3) found inverted over the cremated bones of one adult, probably female, at the entrance of a wedge tomb. Several 'urns' were reportedly found during the removal of a circle of stones around the tomb. *PRIA* 32 (1914–16), 239.

CRAIGDUNLOOF, Co. Antrim.

OS 24

About 1862 'when digging for sand, there fell down at the feet of workmen a large urn with stone enclosure; it was broken into many pieces, but all are carefully preserved, and might be restored. There was no indication on the surface, below which it had been sunk about two feet, in a round hole made in the subsoil. It was a large fine urn, ornamented in the usual way. Its contents were singular, consisting of a large quantity of powdered bones exactly resembling oatmeal, but extremely white ... On making further search, at the distance of a few feet, was found another urn mixed with earth, as if thrown in carelessly; some of these pieces had marks of fire on them'. *JRSAI* 7 (1862), 101.

CRAIGYWARREN, Co. Antrim.

OS 32

Vase, sherds of collared urn (Kavanagh 7; Longworth 1984, no. 2203) and 'another vessel' recorded from the same site: apparently found with cremated bones. No precise details available and whether or not the vase and urn were directly associated is uncertain. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63, 64.

CREGGAN, Co. Antrim.

OS 49

Collared urn (Kavanagh 11; Longworth 1984, no. 2204) inverted on a stone slab in a pit; cremated bones of three individuals (adult female, child and infant) and a pear-shaped clay object. *JRSAI* 56 (1926), 56. *UJA* 8 (1945), 106.

CREGGAN, Co. Antrim.

OS 49

A small flat cemetery of three collared urn burials (Kavanagh 8–10; Longworth 1984, nos. 2205–2207): each urn contained cremated bones and was inverted on a slab in a pit; one urn contained a bronze dagger. *PRIA* 33 C (1916–17), 1. *UJA* 32 (1969), 64.

CRUMLIN, Co. Antrim.

OS 59

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 4) and cremated bones

of a young woman and a child of 5–6 years found in a cist. No exact details. *INJ* 7 (1938–41), 16.

CULMORE, Co. Antrim. Fig. 9. OS 26
Vase urn found inverted in a pit, contained the cremated bones of adult of indeterminate sex and an unburnt flint flake. A 92cm long stone which lay some 75cm from the burial may once have stood upright. *UJA* 8 (1945), 39.

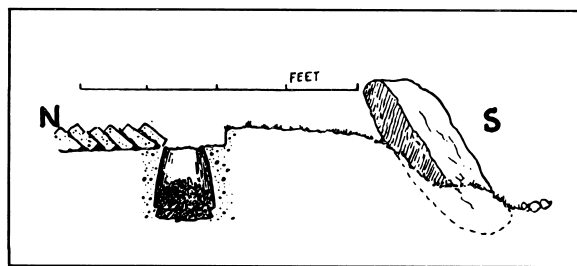


Fig. 9. Culmore, Co. Antrim (after Evans).

CURRAN, Co. Antrim. OS 35/40
In 1935 a cist was found in a road-side quarry; it contained a vase, standing mouth upwards with a stone on top of it, a 'few bones', and a plano-convex flint knife. No further details about the burial are available. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 107.

DERRYAGHY, Co. Antrim. OS 64
'Vaults of stonework containing urns filled with bones' reported. O'Lavery IV, p. xxiii.

DOOEY, Co. Antrim. OS 3
A plain urn of large size contained 'bones' and a 'round ball of baked clay with a hole through the centre of it'; the ball was about 8cm in diameter. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 87; 65 (1935), 235.

DRUMBARE, Co. Antrim. OS 23
A cairn with a kerb was destroyed in 1820: 'among the stones of the cairn and near the circumference several earthen urns filled with bones and ashes were found. Each urn ... was capable of holding a gallon; they were arranged in separate cists formed by flag stones'. O'Lavery IV, 46.

DRUMEENY, Co. Antrim. OS 9
A cist 3 feet long, 2 feet broad and 2 feet deep contained charcoal and a small earthen urn. O'Lavery IV, 420.

DRUMFANE, Co. Antrim. OS 32
Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 6) contained cremated bones, found inverted on a slab in a polygonal cist. *UJA* 1 (1895), 91.

DUNCARBIT, Co. Antrim. OS 9/14
In 1859, a farmer after removing about twenty loads of rich black earth (a tumulus?) came across 'a neatly constructed pavement, in the centre of which was a large slab of sandstone, and on it was an urn about one foot deep and eighteen inches in

circumference. The urn contained portions of charred bones and was inverted on the slab'. O'Lavery IV, 459. *UJA* 8 (1860), 23.

DUNGONNELL, Co. Antrim. OS 24
A small (14cm high) plain tub-like vessel contained cremated bones and a calcined flint flake. *UJA* 8 (1945), 106. See also Longworth 1984, no. 2208.

EVISHACROW, Co. Antrim. OS 19/24
A collared urn (Kavanagh 18 – under 'Legagrane'; Longworth 1984, no. 2214) containing cremated bones had been inverted in what was presumably a pit: it was unprotected though a stone had apparently been placed on its base. (See Cargan, Co. Antrim, for other burials in this area). *JRSAI* 6 (1860), 216. *UJA* 32 (1969), 64.

GALGORM PARKS, Co. Antrim. OS 32
Three collared urns (Kavanagh 13–15; Longworth 1984, nos. 2209–2211) and a vase were found in a sand-ridge on top of which 'there was a small basin-like cavity, 4½ feet in diameter, and 2 feet in depth surrounded by a rim 3 feet broad, and slightly raised above the general level of the surrounding surface ... the soil inside and around (the basin) was quite black ... the urns were found to the eastward of the basin'. The account of their discovery was written by Knowles, who was not present at the time. He recorded that the three urns each stood upright on stones and inside one of them was found the vase; each urn contained cremated bones: Urn 1: large collared urn, contained cremated bones and three burnt barbed and tanged flint arrowheads. Urn 2: large collared urn, contained cremated bones and a vase. Urn 3: slightly smaller and unornamented collared urn, contained cremated bones and portion of a burnt plano-convex flint knife. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 109. *UJA* 1 (1895), 91; 32 (1969), 64.

GLARRYFORD, Co. Antrim.

OS 27 bowls preserved. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.

Cordoned urn burial (Kavanagh 5 – 'Killycreen'); Cremated bones; no details but two plano-convex flint knives and a ring-headed bone pin also found – all calcined. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 102, 110.

GLARRYFORD, Co. Antrim.

OS 27

A collared urn (Kavanagh 17 – 'Killycreen'; Longworth 1984, no. 2213) 'found inverted in a cavity built round with seven stones, and a stone slab lay across the top'; probably a polygonal cist. *BAP* II, 22.

GLENARIFF, Co. Antrim.

OS 20/25

Bowl said to have come from a cist (? cairn). *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.

GLENNAVY, Co. Antrim.

OS 59

Two vases were found in a gravel-ridge in 1854, apparently in a pit-grave; no stones were noted. The smaller vessel 'was half-filled with calcined bones, and resting in the gravel; the covering urn was inverted over it'. About five feet from this burial and about three feet under the surface part of a human skeletal burial was found: 'from the position in which the bones of the head and those of the feet were found, it seemed as if the body had been crushed into a hole too small for it. The body had been placed on its back and doubled up'. The bones of this possible partly disarticulated burial belonged to an 'aged adult'. In 1898 a cordoned urn burial was found some 250 yards west of these burials. *UJA* 5 (1898), 24; 32 (1969), 39.

GLENNAVY, Co. Antrim.

OS 59

A cordoned urn burial (Kavanagh 3), found in 1898 in a gravel pit; it lay inverted, unprotected, in a small pit and contained cremated bones. *UJA* 5 (1898), 24.

GLENSTAGHEY, Co. Antrim.

OS 4

'In sundry parts of Glenstahy were also found beneath the surface, urns of bones, deposited in circular stone vaults and covered over the mouth with flat stones. Also small vaults of different shapes and each containing decayed bones and ashes'. OS Memoir Ballintoy parish.

GLENWHIRRY, Co. Antrim.

OS 39

A round cairn is said to have covered three cists in a line; one was short rectangular 76 by 46cm. Two

GORTEREGHY, Co. Antrim.

OS 26

Pit-burial contained an inverted cordoned urn (Kavanagh 4) which held cremated bones and a bronze razor; found under the urn was an eighteenth-century glass bottle some 5 ins. high. The antiquarian Rev. George Buick, who acquired the urn, offered the ingenious suggestion that the burial had been discovered many years before and the finder, anxious to placate whatever spirits he may have disturbed, placed this bottle, perhaps containing holy water or some other offering, with the bones. The urn burial was found for the second time in 1888 by a local farmer who was killed a fortnight later by a kick of his horse; his death was attributed by his neighbours to the fact that he had interfered with a burial. *JRSAI* 21 (1890), 433.

GORTNACOR, Co. Antrim.

OS 67

A flat cemetery which reportedly produced many urns 'from time to time'. On one occasion 11 urns were found in a straight line about 40m. long buried in the sand at a depth of 45–60cm without any protection. 'In one or two instances however, they were protected by two upright and one covering stone. All the urns were inverted over burnt bones and charcoal'. With the exception of this find, the urn deposits were, according to one report, 'few and far between'. A vase urn and an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 7) survive. *JRSAI* 36 (1906), 42. *BAP* II, 58.

GREENAN, Co. Antrim.

OS 9/14

Several little vaults were found in a sand hill, some contained decayed human bones and in others there were 'ornamented urns containing small pieces of bones'. One of these cists measured 3 feet 8 inches in length, and was 2 feet deep and 1 foot 10 inches wide. According to one account the urns were neatly ornamented and four inches high. A sketch of a small vase (by Thomas Fagan, October 1838, in the Ordnance Survey Memoirs) is accompanied by a note which states that it was found containing calcined bones and ashes in a small vault 'in Killemayangee ancient grave yard' in this townland. O'Laverty IV, 458. *UJA* 8 (1860), 22.

GREENAN, Co. Antrim.

OS 14

Cist and urn said to have been found c. 1935: not disturbed. *UJA* 8 (1945), 26.

- IRISHOMERBANE, Co. Antrim OS 23/24
A cairn removed in 1829 contained an urn capable of holding about three pints, 'a stone with a hole in it', and human bones were also found. O'Lavery IV, 54 (Omberbane).
- KILLYGORE, Co. Antrim. OS 27/28
In 1830 two urns were found 'resting mouth downwards on a flagstone, and filled with bones and ashes'. O'Lavery III, 457.
- KILLYREE, Co. Antrim. OS 27
Short cist 92 by 46 by 36cm deep contained a bowl; no certain traces of bones. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 107. *UJA* 1 (1895), 96; 32 (1969), 59.
- KILMAKEE, Co. Antrim. OS 64
In 1849, the removal of sand from a hillock revealed three pottery vessels: two of which were of large size, capable of holding about two gallons each; these were filled with calcined bones, and on being exposed to the air, fell to pieces; the third one was of small size, and quite perfect. Only this third vessel, a vase, from this flat cemetery of pit burials, is preserved; the two urns are lost. *UJA* 3 (1855), 127; 32 (1969), 63.
- KNOCKAHOLET, Co. Antrim. OS 18
Two plain urns (one bucket-shaped) found in 1933, both were inverted and unprotected. *INJ* 5 (1934), 113, 171. *JRSAI* 64 (1934), 264. *UJA* 11 (1948), 26.
- KNOCKBOY, Co. Antrim. OS 28/33
A large urn, found in 1898, contained cremated bones and a quoit-shaped faience bead; a biconical cup (Kavanagh 4) apparently lay beside the urn. There was no cist but the site of the burial had possibly been covered by a low circular mound. *UJA* 27 (1964), 62.
- LEMNAGHBEG, Co. Antrim. OS 4
'In 1833, three funeral urns, separated from each other about a yard, and each covered over the mouth with a flat stone' were found. O'Lavery IV, 331.
- LISNAGAT, Co. Antrim. OS 8
A long pit (180 by 76cm) contained sherds of a collared urn – cordoned urn hybrid (a collared urn according to Kavanagh, 19; and Longworth 1984, no. 2215) and some charcoal. No bones were found but the excavators were of the opinion that the pit had contained an unburnt extended burial. *UJA* 15 (1952), 66.
- LIVERY UPPER, Co. Antrim. OS 12/13
A cordoned urn (Kavanagh 6: a collared urn according to Longworth 1984, no. 2216), a vase urn and – it was claimed – two fragments of an encrusted urn were found in a stone-filled pit during mechanical quarrying in a gravel pit; a little burnt bone was recovered. Some 6–7m away a pit contained an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 8) standing mouth upwards, and cremated bones. (Information from A. E. P. Collins).
- LOSSET, Co. Antrim. OS 9
In 1820, two stone-lined graves containing skeletons were found on a farm, also found was 'a smaller stone-lined vault containing a beautifully ornamented urn filled with ashes and calcined bones'. O'Lavery IV, 461.
- LOUGHANMORE, Co. Antrim. OS 50
A low mound (?) covered three large urns all inverted and unprotected; they were placed about 46cm apart. O'Lavery records the discovery of two urns (the largest 15 inches high) in a kistvaen in 1841. *PRIA* 2 (1840–4), 163. *JRSAI* 18 (1887–8), 272. O'Lavery III, 235.
- LOUGHLUGHAN, Co. Antrim. Fig. 10.
OS 28/33
A cemetery cairn, dug in 1900, contained three short cists: A: long axis E–W, contained a bowl and skeletal remains; B: centrally placed, long axis E–W, contained lugged bowl, no bones noted; C: long axis N–S, had an encircling 'wall' (?), previously disturbed; two jet beads were recovered, no bones noted. *JRSAI* 32 (1902), 163. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.
- LYLES HILL (Toberagnee td.), Co. Antrim. OS 56
A low flat cairn situated in the approximate centre of a pear-shaped hill enclosure produced numerous traces of cremated remains and contained a central stone-lined grave, which had possibly been disturbed, containing sherds of Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery (Beaker according to Case, *PPS* 27, 1961, 224) and fragments of cremated bone. Outside the kerb of this cairn were three Bronze Age burials: 1. On the south-east: a dry-masonry-lined cavity measuring 2 feet in length, 1 foot in width and 14 inches in depth, with a floor

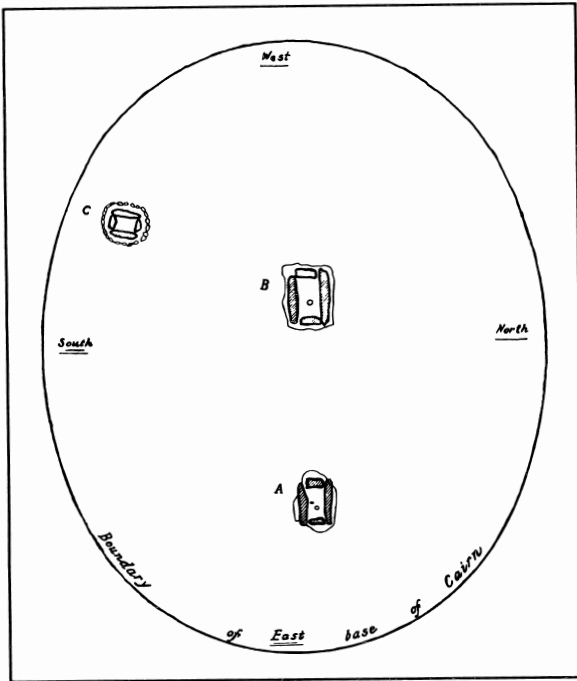


Fig. 10. Loughloughan, Co. Antrim (after Buick).

slab but no trace of a covering stone, contained an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 9) inverted over 7 lbs. of cremated bone, beside the urn to the south, were the crushed remains of a small vase. The bones were those of an adult male. 2. On the south-east: a small slab-built rectangular cist contained a crushed bowl accompanying the cremated remains (8 lbs.) of an adult of small size, probably female. This grave had been disturbed by the later insertion of burial 1 above. 3. On the south-west: a stone-lined pit of oval form, with no covering-slab, contained a vase inverted beside the cremated bones of an adult male. The base of the pot bears a grain impression of naked barley. Evans, *Lyles Hill* (1953).

MAGHABERRY, Co. Antrim. OS 67
Human bones and 'an ornamented urn filled with bones and ashes' found c. 1837. O'Lavery IV, p. v.

MAGHERABOY, Co. Antrim. OS 12/13
Vase urn found with a vase and a burnt plano-convex flint knife. No details of burial. *UJA* 32 (1969), 42.

MAGHERAGALL, Co. Antrim. OS 63/67
In Brook Hill, in 1837, several urns 'curiously en-

graved and containing human bones' were found in the course of ploughing near a 'cromlech'. (See Ballylough, Co. Antrim). Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 296.

MAGHERALISKISK, Co. Antrim. OS 63/67
'In 1834, Joseph Maharry found in a limestone quarry ... two earthen urns, human bones and ashes, the large urn was mouth downwards on the limestone. The small urn was highly ornamented'. O'Lavery IV, p. v.

RAMOAN, Co. Antrim. OS 4/5
'An ancient rath, near the Causeway shore ... contained three urns of baked clay, which were ornamented on the outside with waving lines, and round the brim, with a rude imitation of foliage; they were placed each with the mouth downwards; a little black ashes were all they covered; the spot around them was neatly paved with small round stones ...' Mason, *A Statistical Account or Parochial Survey of Ireland*, Vol. 2 (1816), 507.

RATHLIN Island, Co. Antrim. OS 1
'A number of small Tumuli were lately opened in a little plain about the middle of the island ... The chief himself lay in a stone coffin, and beside him an earthen vessel stood, which by the residuum still visible, seemed formerly to have contained an offering of blood, or some perishable animal substance. Within the Tumuli lay a considerable number of human bones ...' A sherd of vase urn is recorded but no details of its discovery are known. Hamilton, *Letters concerning the Northern Coast of the County of Antrim* (1786), 24. *UJA* 7 (1944), 61; 32 (1969), 61. *JRSAI* 34 (1904), 282.

Near SKERRY EAST, Co. Antrim. OS 24
A slab-covered cist five feet long and four feet wide (found in 1817) contained 'a shallow red earthen urn, highly ornamented, containing some ashes'. A similar grave about 1000m to the north contained 'a similar red clay urn, but in addition there were found nearby a quart measure of small button-shaped pieces of black wood, each of these was pierced with a hole'; the beads (?) were subsequently lost. O'Lavery III, 449.

TONDUFF, Co. Antrim. OS 3
'Two urns containing bones were found near each other ... one was placed mouth downwards on a

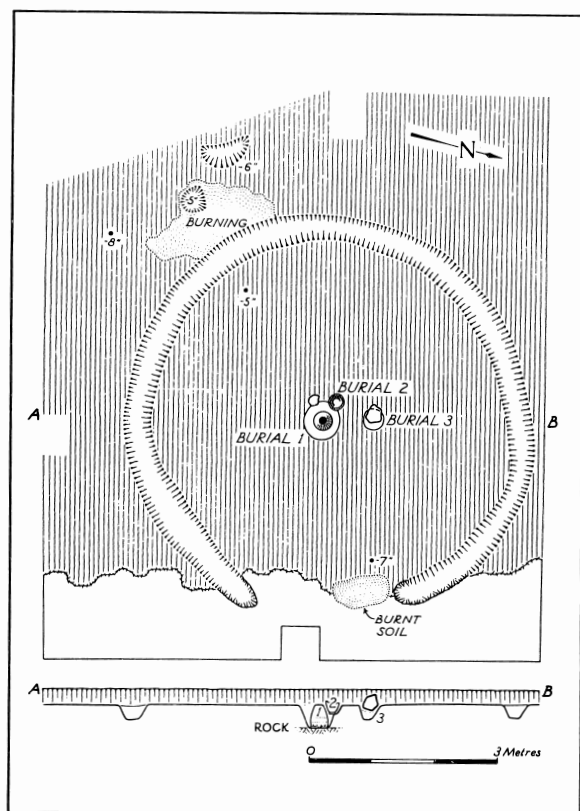


Fig. 11. Urbalreagh, Co. Antrim (after Waterman).

flat stone, and the other had its mouth upwards and covered with a flat stone'. O'Lavery iv, 297.

URBALREAGH, Co. Antrim. Fig 11. OS 6
Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 7) found inverted in a pit at the centre of a penannular ring-ditch; the urn contained the cremated bones of an adult male and several small fragments of bronze. Just west of and partly cutting this pit was found the base of an urn (which had stood mouth upwards) containing the cremation of a child; if ever entire, the mouth of the urn would have been above ground level. About 38cm north of the cordoned urn, a pit contained the cremation of an adolescent and a burnt flint flake. The site of a possible pyre was found outside the ditch and abraded bowl sherds were recovered from the fill of the ditch; three stake holes were noted at various points. *UJA* 31 (1968), 25.

WHITE ROCKS, Co. Antrim. OS 2
Polygonal cist with 'tail' of basalt boulders in sand-hills contained a crouched skeleton and a saddle quern fragment. C14 date for bone of 1305 ± 730 BC. (UB-666). *UJA* 40 (1977), 21.

WOODBURN, Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim. OS 52
Bowl found in a short cist with large cap-stone; the pot stood mouth upwards and possibly accompanied a cremation. Other 'urns' found in the same field? See Carrickfergus. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 74, 86. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.

BALLYMOYER, Co. Armagh.

A cairn contained two separate 'tombs', in which were 'two urns of elegant form and workmanship containing ashes'. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 147.

CAVANAKILL, Co. Armagh.

OS 21
A drawing of a bowl by George Petrie (1829) is preserved in the National Library and it is accompanied by a note by Marcus Synott. This note records that Sir Walter Synott opened 'three cairns of stone' in this townland in which there were 'three regularly turned arches of masonry in one of which were found 3 (?) urns containing the ashes of the dead – two of them in a perfect state, the urn in the fourth corner had crumbled into dust. Over the perfect ones were slabs – in the two other arched places, the urns have evidently mouldered away as the remains were in each corner'. NLI ms 4458.

DORSY, Co. Armagh.

OS 28
Cremation and sherds of cordoned urn recorded. Possibly from the Roxborough tumulus (below). *UJA* 32 (1969), 65.

DUVERNAGH, Co. Armagh. Fig. 12. OS 22
Short sub-rectangular cist, 58 by 51 by 38cm deep, long axis E-W, paved floor. A bowl at either end accompanied cremated bones of a male 35-45 years. *UJA* 7 (1944), 99; 32 (1969), 59.

ROXBOROUGH (Dorsy), Co. Armagh.

OS 28
A mound known as the 'The Moate' covered four cists: 1: 'almost square', 107 by 58 by 69cm deep, contained small bones (? cremated). 2: similar in size and contents to no. 1. 3: measured 112 by 58 by 61cm deep, contained a bowl, no trace of bones noted. 4: no details. *CLAJ* 2 (1908-11), 197. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 108. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.

SLIEVE GULLION, Co. Armagh. Fig. 13. OS 28

North cairn covered two short rectangular cists: 1: long axis NW-SE, 76 by 53cm, with floorslab; no bones found. 2: poorly constructed, long axis NNW-SSE, contained cremation of one adult and

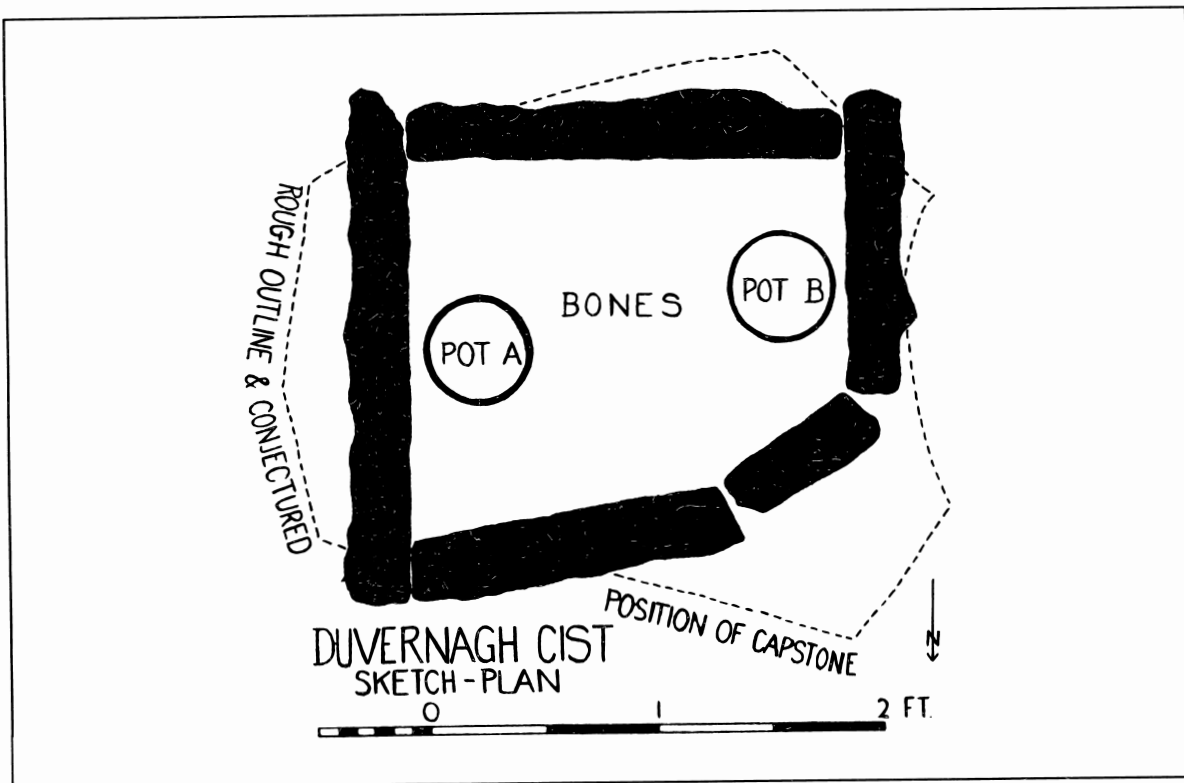


Fig. 12. Duvernagh, Co. Armagh (after Paterson and Davies).

sherds of a bowl. *UJA* 26 (1963), 30; 32 (1969), 59.

TULLYVALLAN, Co. Armagh. OS 27
Bowl found, in 1910, in a round cairn; the pot was placed mouth upwards, it contained cremated bones; more bone found some distance below it. The burial was not in a cist but protected by a few stones. *CLAJ* 3 (1912–15), 108. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59.

TULLYWINNY, Co. Armagh. OS 25
A slab-built cist, found in 1935, measured approximately 76cm square. It contained a vase and cremated bones covered by an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 12). The vase, sherds of the urn, and some fragments of cremated bones (of one female, possibly two persons) are preserved. *UJA* 28 (1965), 71; 32 (1969), 61.

ARDRISTAN, Aghade, Co. Carlow. OS 8/13
A number of small cists found in the early nineteenth century (?) 'containing urns with burned and unburned bones': a flat cemetery. Listed by Flanagan (1976) under Holestone, Co. Antrim. It is mentioned in O'Laverty III, 191. *PRIA* 5 (1850–3), 359. *JRSAI* 69 (1939), 102.

'KNOCKNACOURA', near Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow. OS 16

A cup (Kavanagh 7) and fragments of a larger urn (latter lost) were found in a 'rude stone coffin composed of six pieces of freestone granite': a polygonal cist? *PRIA* 5 (1850–3), 131. Wilde (1857), 179.

BALLON HILL, Co. Carlow.

OS 13
This is a granite hill rising to a height of 430 feet above OD; it is covered with a bearing of sand and earth which varies in depth from four feet to twelve inches. Judging from the vague nineteenth-century descriptions which survive of the exploration of the site, there once existed here a cemetery mound and one or more flat cemeteries. There are numerous references to the discovery of traces of fires, spreads of charcoal and pits. Burials were found on various parts of the hill. Three human skeletons, apparently disarticulated, and broken pottery vessels 'of four distinct patterns' were found under a huge boulder which rested on two other boulders and which was considered to be a natural feature. In another place 'large numbers of fictile vessels had been destroyed in planting trees', one man

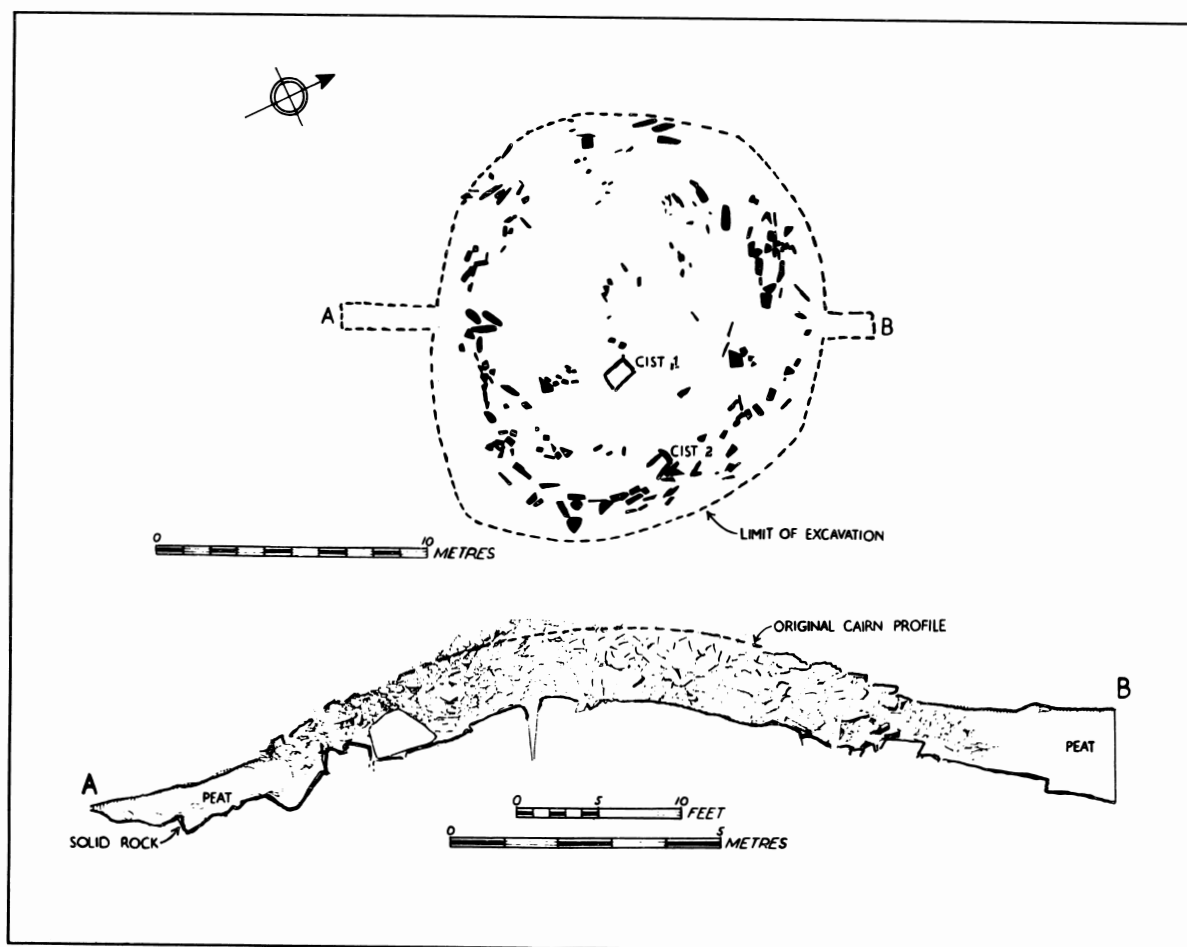


Fig. 13. Slieve Gullion, Co. Armagh (after Collins and Wilson).

having found four and another man eleven close together on the top of the hill. There are other references to numerous finds of both pottery vessels and cremated bones. Also recorded is the discovery of a pit near the top of the hill which was filled with charcoal and contained pot sherds. An unburnt, and apparently decapitated, human skeleton was found some ten yards from the top of the hill, it lay extended in an east-west direction. Several small cists containing cremated bones were found, but where on the hill is not recorded. It appears that various burials and various groups of burials were found on different parts of the hill, and it is possible that one or more flat cemeteries may have existed there.

On the top of Ballon Hill, there are various references to 'large and curious entrenchments', 'an old rath' and a paving of 'great blocks of stone set on end, and fitting close together'. This 'masonry at the top of the hill' as it has been called, yielded

large quantities of burnt bones and charcoal, a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 8) was found, which contained cremated bones, and lay in an inverted position, a sod being used to close its mouth. Nearby was another urn of large size. A short rectangular cist contained 'an urn of very elaborate pattern', this cist was filled with fine sand. Another cist built of slabs and of five-sided form was also filled with sand and apparently contained a bronze dagger-blade. A small lugged vase containing a few bones came from this polygonal cist, as did a large urn inverted over cremated bones and three pebbles placed in a triangle. Three further cists are mentioned, one containing an inverted urn and cremated bones. This structure on top of the hill was apparently a cemetery mound, perhaps with further burials in its immediate vicinity.

The surviving pottery from the whole area comprises four bowls, thirteen vases or vase urns, the one cordoned urn, three urns of or related to the

collared type (Kavanagh 21 and 22; Longworth 1984, nos. 2218–2219; Kavanagh 9: miscalled a cordoned urn) and one small plain pottery vessel. In addition Neolithic pottery has reportedly been found in the vicinity of the hill (a sherd from a gravel-pit at Aghade is preserved in NMI: P1949:52A). *JRSAI* 2 (1852–3), 295–303; 3 (1854–5), 374–5; 9 (1867), 209–10; 60 (1930), 74; 89 (1959), 31–33. *Arch. Jour.* 11 (1854), 73–5. *PPS* 12 (1946), 149 (for mention of Neolithic pottery).

BALLYBIT, Co. Carlow.

OS 3/4/8

A vase containing microscopic traces of 'ashes' was reportedly found under a two-ton boulder. No further details available. *JRSAI* 7 (1862–3), 12. *Arch.* 43, 382.

BALLYHACKET UPPER, Co. Carlow.

OS 3

A disturbed cist had apparently been constructed partly of dry-masonry and roofed with a large capstone 1.8m long and 60–90cm wide; no more precise details are available of the grave. It contained unburnt and burnt bones: the unburnt bones, representing an adult, probably female, came from the eastern end of the grave, and the fragments of cremated bone, which are not identified, reportedly came from its western end. A small vase was associated with the unburnt bones, though exact details of its position are not recorded. A flint flake was also found. *JRSAI* 64 (1934), 141.

BALLYKNOCKAN, Co. Carlow.

OS 16/17

A 'most compact and regular cist' contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

BALLYMURPHY, Co. Carlow.

OS 8

A cist found in a gravel pit in 1912 contained a vase and 'small bones', some of which were in the pottery vessel. The bones were possibly cremated. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

BAUNOGENASRAID, Co. Carlow.

Fig. 14. OS 8

A late Neolithic burial mound was enlarged to contain at least ten burials; all were in shallow pits, protected in five instances by a few small stones. Two unburnt burials were disturbed by subsequent cremations: 1. Pit contained traces of organic lining (?wood) and the remains of a skeleton crouched on its left side (and facing SE); a bowl probably came from this grave. 2. Cremation of one adult. 3–4. Cremations, each of a child of 8–10

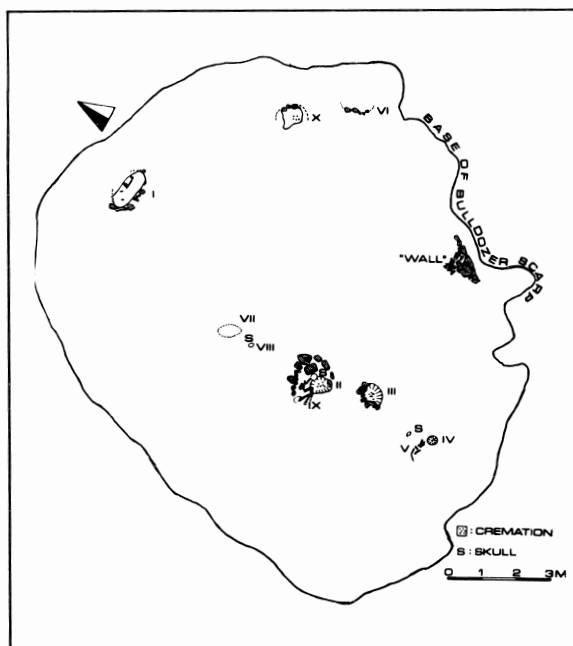


Fig. 14. Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow (after B. Raftery).

years. 5. Unburnt remains of an adult male, possibly crouched, and a child; flint knife also found. Disturbed by no. 4. 6. Cremation, destroyed; flint scraper found. 7–8. Two unburnt burials, disturbed. 9. Crouched skeleton of an adult male, on left side, head to E, facing S. Disturbed by no. 2. 10. Pit with traces of organic lining (? wood), contained cremation of an adult. *PRIA* 74 C (1974), 277.

BOHERDUFF, Co. Carlow.

OS 16

A short rectangular cist of four slabs and capstone, 55 by 36 by 30cm deep, with long axis E–W, contained the crouched skeleton of an infant (on right side, head to E). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

CASTLEGRACE, Co. Carlow.

OS 13

Small rectangular cist, 38 by 36 by 51cm deep, with floor-slab, contained 'some small fragments of bones'. Found c. 1935. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

GLENOGE, Co. Carlow.

OS 8

An 'urn' and a bone pin (latter now in NMI) were found at the base of a standing stone. *JRSAI* 69 (1939), 101.

KILLERRIG, Co. Carlow.

OS 3/8

A 'foodvessel' is recorded from 'a little kist constructed of granite stones, just sufficient in size to

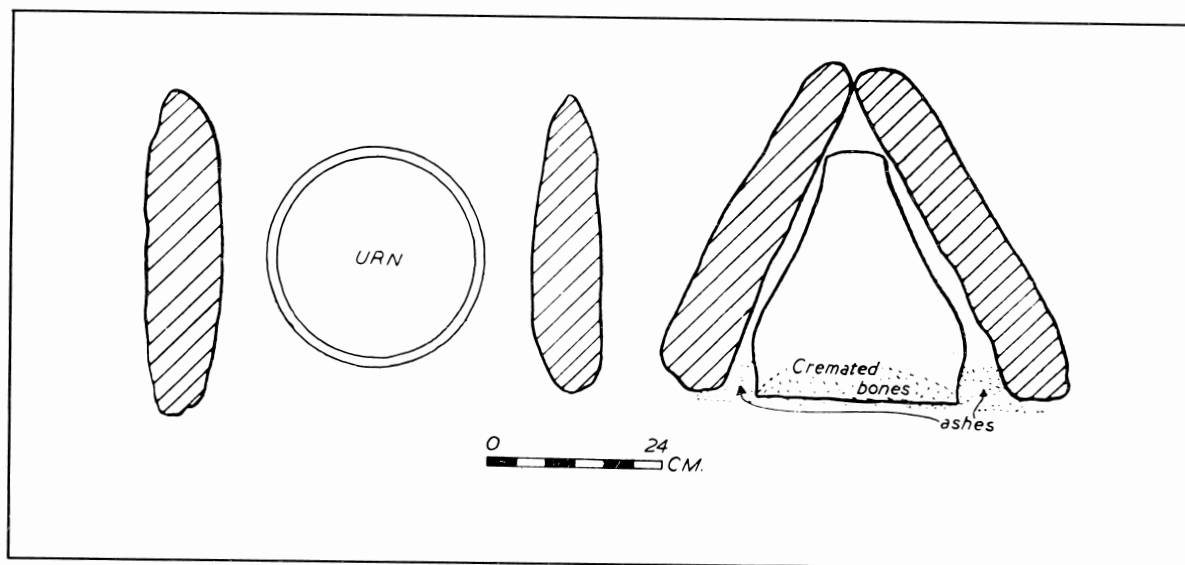


Fig. 15. Knocklishen Beg, Co. Carlow (after Prendergast).

contain the urn'. 'Ashes' were found in and beside the vessel and the grave was covered by a small boulder. Two similar vessels, also in cists, were found in the locality, but destroyed. *JRSAI* 12 (1872-73), 252.

KNOCKLISHEN BEG, Co. Carlow. Fig. 15. OS 4 An inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 13) in a pit was protected by two slabs (which rested against one another to form an inverted V); the urn rested on a bed of wood ash (*Fraxinus*) and it contained the cremated bones of one individual – a young person or a small adult. *JRSAI* 75 (1945), 259.

KNOCKNATUBBRID, Co. Carlow. OS 13 A rectangular cist measuring about 69 by 53 by 69cm deep contained a crouched skeleton. *J. Kildare A. S.* 11 (1929-32), 26. *JRSAI* 69 (1939), 103.

LEIGHLINBRIDGE, Co. Carlow. OS 12 A flat cemetery: 'numerous urns placed in low, narrow and long vaults' were 'of coarse earthen ware ... each closed by a cover'. *Anthologia Hibernica*, Vol. 2, July-Dec. (1793), 274.

SLIGUFF, Co. Carlow. Fig. 16. OS 19 Short rectangular cist, long axis NE-SW, contained some 24cm of sandy fill in which lay the crouched skeleton of a young adult male on its right side with skull almost in the N corner. A bowl lay on its side in front of the face. *Carloviana* 2, no. 23 (1974), 21.

STRAWHALL, Co. Carlow.

OS 2 Flat cemetery of three graves found in 1944: 1. Pit contained a vase urn inverted over cremated bones, unprotected; pit was small – only 10cm wider than the urn. 2. Found 2.10m SW of no. 1: pit burial with a rough covering of stones; encrusted urn (Kavanagh 14) over cremated bones (and two pieces of charcoal: *Fraxinus* and *Quercus*). 3. About 1m SW of no. 1: polygonal cist containing an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 15) inverted over cremated bones. 'Nearby were pits of brown earth in the sand'. NMI. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

VERMOUNT, Co. Carlow.

OS 9 Short rectangular cist 77 by 47 by 30cm deep, long axis E-W; contained a bowl and parts of the skeletons of two adult females. The bowl was found in the NW corner. A flint blade was also found. NMI. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

WELLS, near Royaloak, Co. Carlow. Fig. 17.

OS 16 Three conjoined cist graves were found in Wells townland in 1884. Grave no. 1 was a rectangular chamber measuring about 102 by 74cm. It had reportedly been disturbed a number of years before and 'an urn and some bones had been then taken away'. Adjoining the southern side of this cist was another, Grave 2, which measured 79 by 30cm and was 33cm deep; it had a capstone and a floor slab and contained a bowl and human bones. Grave 3 adjoined the southern side-slab of Grave 2 and was

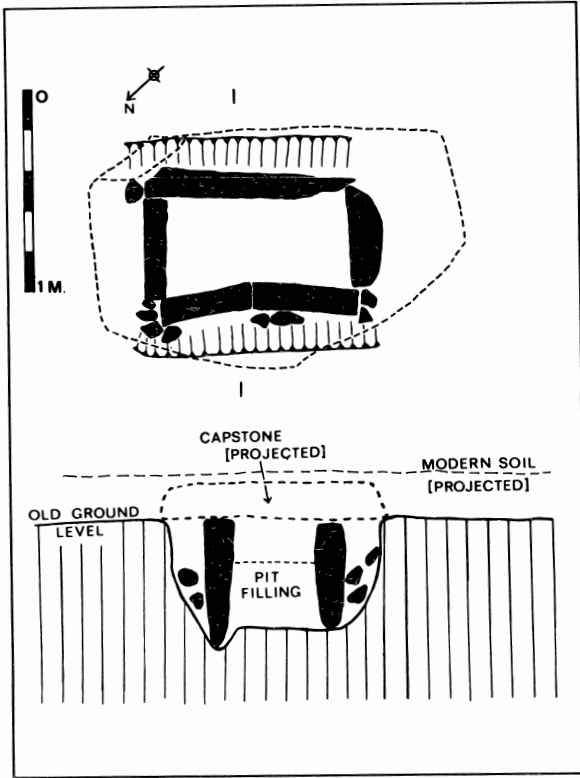


Fig. 16. Sliguff, Co. Carlow (after Ryan).

of sub-rectangular plan with a maximum width of 36cm. It contained the unburnt remains of a child about 1½ years old. *JRSAI* 18 (1887–88), 491.

BANAGHER, Co. Cavan.

OS 26

Three cists and several pots were reportedly found in a cairn in 1972. A bowl is preserved. NMI.

BELLVILLE, Co. Cavan.

OS 25

A possible cemetery mound was destroyed c. 1735: 'a circle about 25 feet in diameter ... which was filled up with a vast heap of earth and mould and small stones raised high, in the bottom of which were found several well shaped urns of earthen or crock metal (*sic*), containing some black mould and covered with little flags, and before every urn there was placed a long flag 18 inches broad covered with small bones'. *UJA* 1 (1938), 142.

CLOGGY, Co. Cavan.

OS 24/25

A short rectangular cist, found c. 1915, contained a bowl, another vessel (not preserved) and cremated bones (which filled one of the pots). *J. Breifny Antiquarian Society*, Vol. 1 (1921), 164. *JRSAI* 60 (1930), 74.

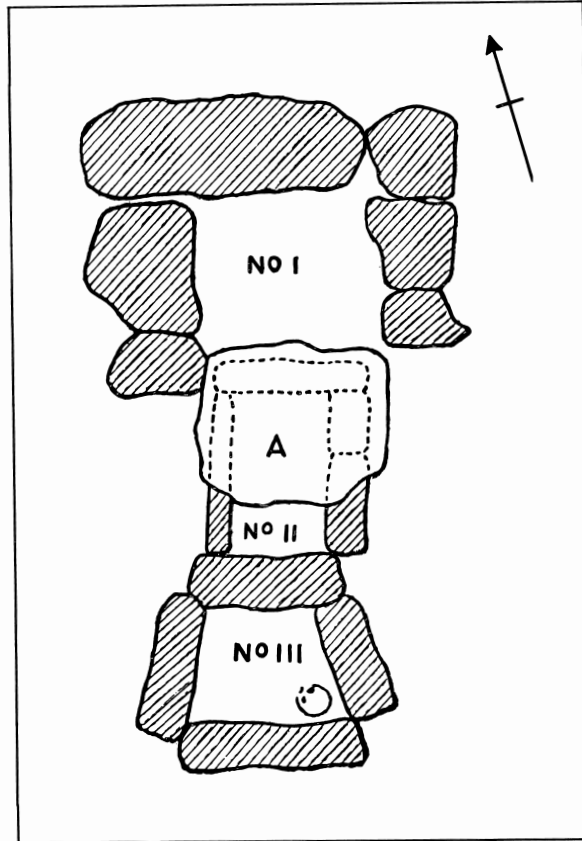


Fig. 17. Wells, Royaloak, Co. Carlow (after Vigors).

CORNASEER, Co. Cavan.

OS 25

Cist: 'a number of flags and a flag on top' contained bones and an object compared to a helmet: a pottery vessel? *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 109.

DRUMANESPICK, Co. Cavan.

OS 27/33

A stone-lined grave, possibly a cist, contained a deposit of cremated bone; it measured approximately 92cm in length and was 30cm deep. The grave was disturbed after discovery and a vase which was recovered reportedly stood outside the cist at its northern end. The mouth of the vessel was covered by a lozenge-shaped piece of thin shale. Another burial was found and destroyed about 5m away c. 1907. *JRSAI* 90 (1960), 10; 100 (1970), 110. *Irish Times* 10-4-42.

KILLARAH, Co. Cavan.

OS 14

A grave discovered near the periphery of Ballyheady Cairn consisted of a deposit of cremated bones and some unburnt skeletal remains beneath a slab measuring about 2 by 1.20m. *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 167.

KILLINAGH, Co. Cavan.

OS 1/2/3?

Bowl found 'lying in the centre of six large stones, placed perpendicularly ...' apparently accompanying cremated bones. *PRIA* 3 (1845-7), 530.

KILLYCARNEY, Co. Cavan.

OS 1/2

A mound about 24m in diameter contained three cists: 1. Segmented cist, 107 by 71 by 58cm deep, contained an 'urn' and cremated bones in both compartments, one bowl preserved, a bone belt-hook and a miniature stone axehead were also found. 2. Short cist, 56 by 51cm, contained an en-crusted urn (Kavanagh 16), a flint fabricator and a plano-convex knife. 3. A 'little chamber': apparently empty. *JRSAI* 15 (1879-82), 190. *PRIA* 16 (1879-88), 71.

PORTANURE, Co. Cavan.

OS 36

A cist, discovered in the early years of this century, contained 'two buttons'; no further details. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 110.

TERMON, Co. Cavan.

OS 2

Sherds of a large vase were found associated with cremated bones in a pit in a sand-ridge. *JRSAI* 97 (1967), 9.

TERMON, Co. Cavan. Fig 18.

OS 2

A cemetery cairn approximately 18m in diameter and 2.5m in height contained four cists, three of them in its south-eastern quadrant: 1. Short rectangular cist (A): 68cm in length, long axis N-S, contained two vases which were inverted side by side at its northern end and contained cremated bones. Further scraps of cremated bone lay at the southern end of the grave. 2-3. Two short rectangular cists (B-C), both destroyed before investigation. One was possibly empty, the other contained a small pottery vessel which was destroyed. 4. The long cist (D) was also destroyed, it was reportedly about 180cm in length and 61cm in width and slab-built. It contained two vases and a bowl-vase hybrid; it was stated that they all had stood mouth upwards, one at either end and one in the centre of the cist, and all had contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 87 (1957), 53.

O'BRIEN'S BRIDGE, Co. Clare.

OS 54

The discovery of a cist containing bones and ashes and a small pottery vessel was reported in 1941. The grave was apparently left untouched. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 110.

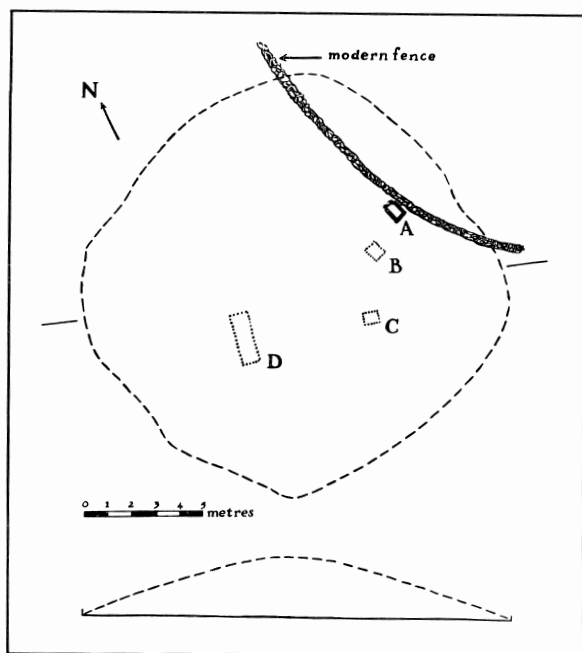


Fig. 18. Termon, Co. Cavan (after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

POULAWACK, Co. Clare.

Fig. 19.

OS 9

A cairn built on a limestone hill measured approximately 21m in diameter; it covered two concentric stone revetments, the innermost constructed of massive masonry. Excluding some human and animal bones found in the body of the cairn, 10 graves were found containing the remains of 16 people. Burials 1-4 were considered to be secondary, the others primary. 1. Unprotected skeletal burial. 2. Short cist, long axis E-W, containing the cremated remains of an adult (possibly female), a flint scraper and a bone point. 3. Short cist, long axis NE-SW, crouched skeleton of a young woman on right side facing E. 4. Short cist: long axis NE-SW, contained disturbed unburnt remains of an adult and child. 5. Short cist: long axis N-S, contained skeletal remains of a child (c. 6 years) and an adolescent (12-14 years), and a tiny fragment of pottery. 6. Double cist, long axis approx. N-S: no. 6 contained the cremation of a young adult male, and the skeletal remains of a child and an adolescent. 6a contained the unburnt remains of an adult male. A small sherd of unclassifiable Beaker was also found. 7. A rough cist-like construction containing the remains of the skeleton of an infant. 8. Double cist: centrally placed; no. 8 may originally have contained the unburnt remains of an infant, a hollow scraper, a boar's tusk and two tiny potsherds; 8a contained the disarticulated skeletal

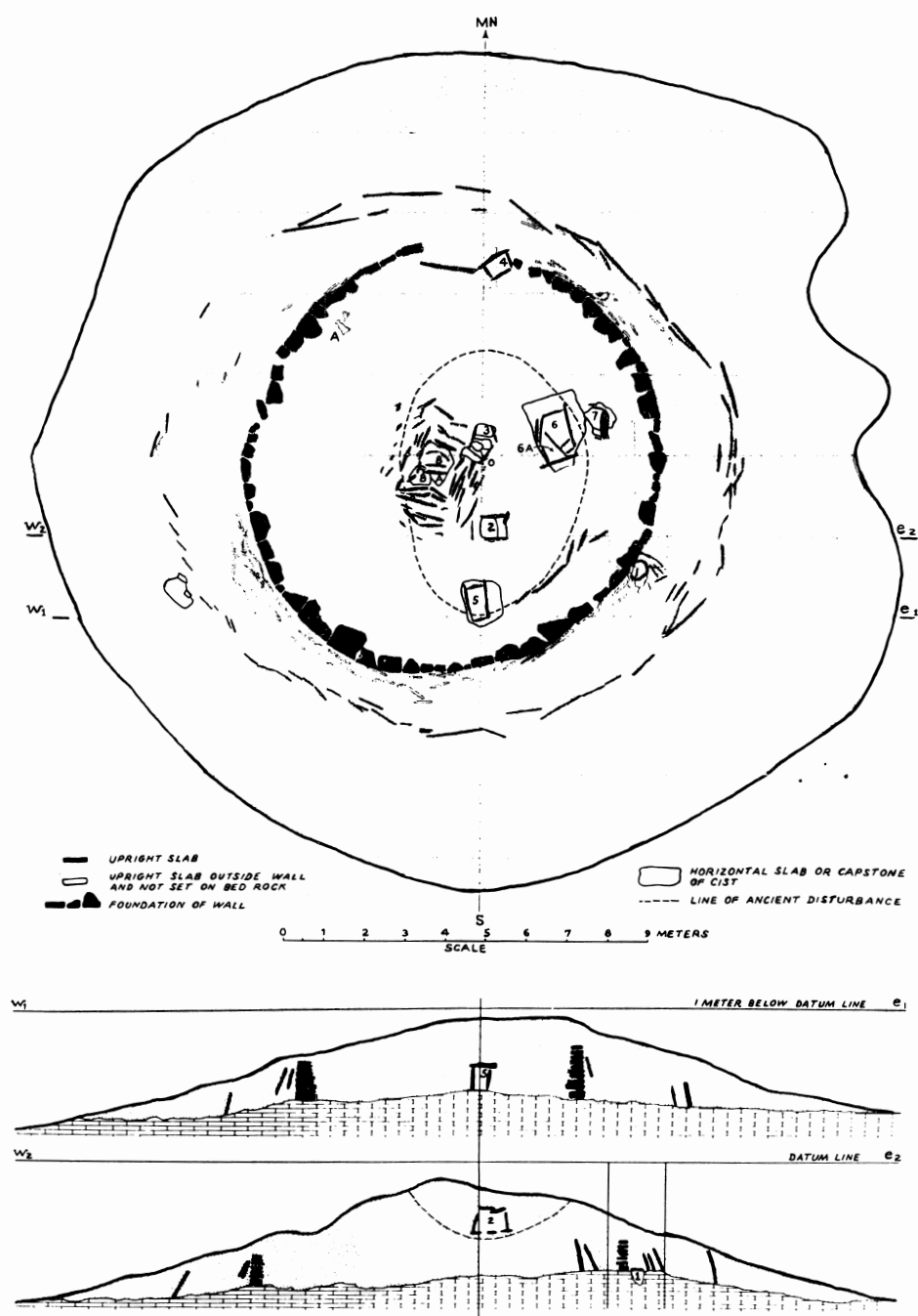


Fig. 19. Poulawack, Co. Clare (after Hencken).

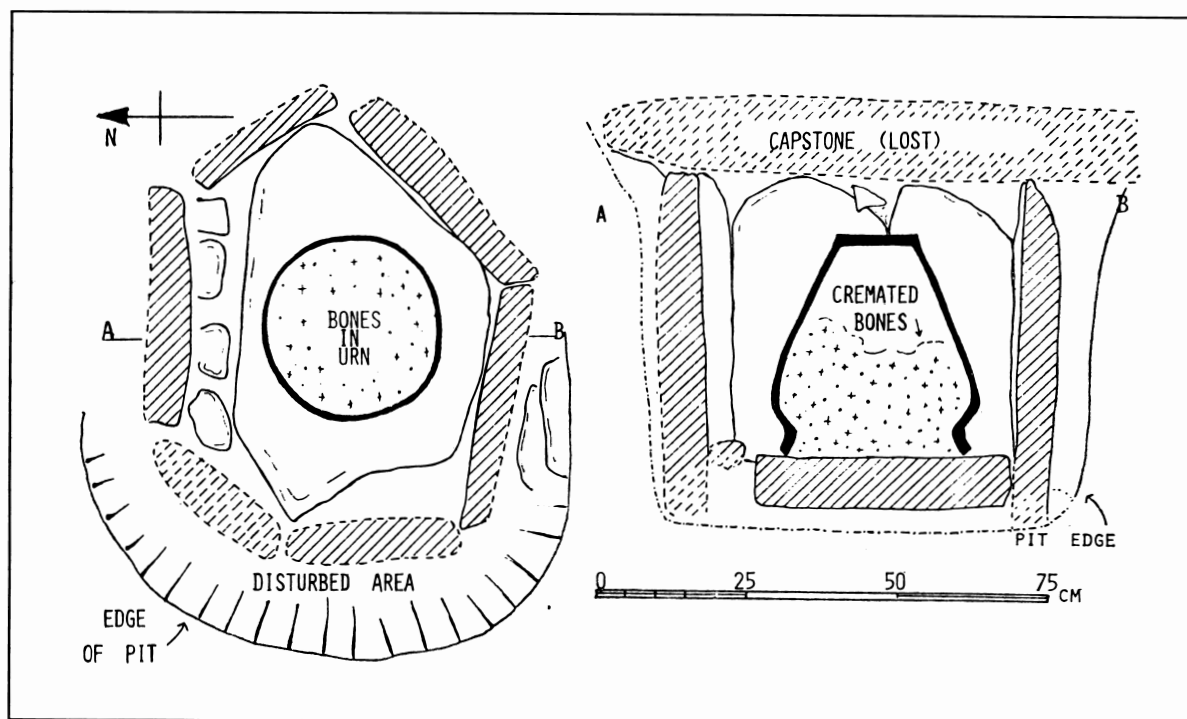


Fig. 20. Ballinvoher, Co. Cork (after O'Kelly and Shee).

remains of four individuals and an oyster shell. A Neolithic grave. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 191. Ryan (on the affinities of the central cist) in Ó Corráin (ed.), *Irish Antiquity* (1981), 134.

AGHACROSS, Co. Cork.

OS 19

A stone cist reportedly contained some cremated bone, a large vase and four other 'small vessels'. The latter were replaced in the grave and the vase taken to the USA: a photograph of the large vase is preserved. See Ballyshurdane, Co. Cork (below). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 110.

ANNESGROVE, Co. Cork.

OS 26

A short rectangular cist approx. 90cm long – long axis N–S, apparently disturbed. No further details. *JCHAS* 37 (1932), 30.

BALLAGHAREA, Co. Cork.

OS 6

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 17) inverted in a pit and containing the cremated bones of a young adult. *JCHAS* 66 (1961), 130.

BALLINDINIS, Castlemartyr, Co. Cork.

OS 77

Bowl (a cup according to Kavanagh 9) and a few 'bones' found in a cist in a tumulus. *JCHAS* 16 (1910), 167; 50 (1945), 15.

BALLINLUIG WEST, Co. Cork.

OS 98

Removal of a stone revealed 'a small cavity or kistvaen, containing three or four little cups and a bronze ring which was placed in the middle'. Pottery destroyed: no mention of bones. Burial or hoard? *JRSAI* 15 (1879–82), 638.

BALLINVOHER, Co. Cork. Fig. 20.

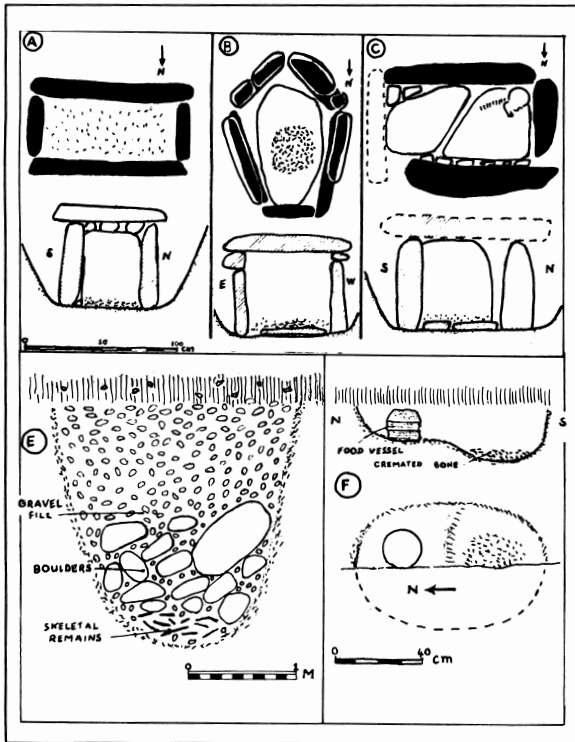
OS 26

Vase urn found in a polygonal cist, contained cremated bones representing adult and infant skeletons. Nearby a pit, covered by a slab, contained a small amount of cremated bone and a perforated boar's tusk; bones of a foetus, an infant and an adult were represented. A few unburnt bones of an adult female and some animal bones were scattered in the disturbed area around the cist. *JCHAS* 80 (1974), 77.

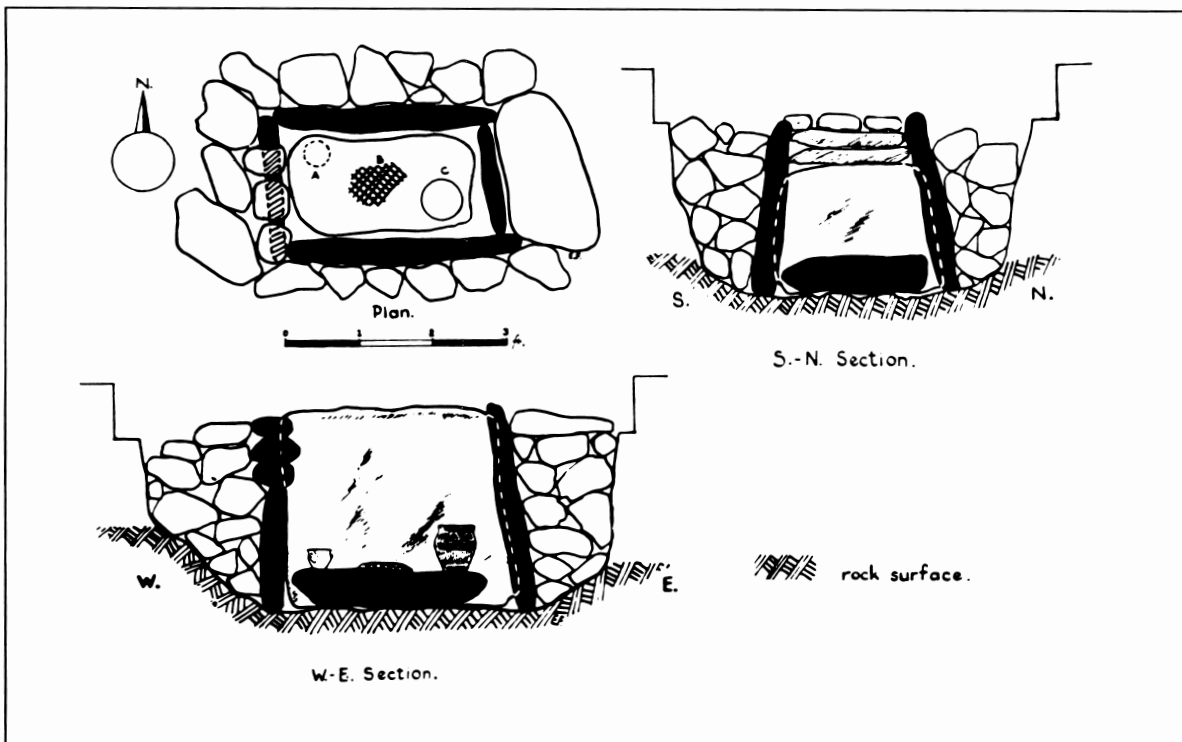
BALLYENAHAN NORTH, Co. Cork. Fig. 21.

OS 18

A flat cemetery in a gravel-ridge, discovered in 1949, contained some 17 graves. Details are available of 6 of these: 1. Grave A: rectangular, slab-built cist 88cm long, 39cm wide, and 57cm deep, long axis E–W. Contained the cremated bones of a young adult, probably female, and 16 small rivets, apparently of bronze. 2. Grave B: pentagonal, slab-built cist, long axis N–S; the cremated remains



of two children, one of 4 years, the other 8–10 years, lay on the floor slab. 3. Grave C: rectangular, slab-built cist, 95cm long, 52cm wide, 55cm deep, long axis E–W. It contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male 25–50 years, lying on its left side, head to the W. It had been accompanied by a pottery vessel of which only one small fragment survived. 4. Grave D: a short cist containing unidentifiable cremated bone. 5. Grave E: Pit-grave: some 2.4m deep and approximately the same in width at its mouth; it had contained the unburnt skeletal burial of an adult male accompanied by a bronze dagger; the burial was covered by a layer of boulders. 6. Grave F: Pit-grave: simple oval pit, deeper at one end than at the other, long axis N–S. It measured 85cm in length, 33cm in depth, and approximately 55cm in width. The deeper end contained the fragmentary cremated remains of child of 2–7 years; at the other end lay an inverted bowl. A vase also survives from this cemetery but no details of the circumstances of its discovery are known. See Glennahulla, Co. Cork. *JCHAS* 59 (1954), 42.



ing. It had been built in a pit, the bottom 15cm of which were rock cut; the cist was slab-built and measured 97 by 69cm internally; its walls inclined inwards and this was considered to be an intentional constructional feature; it had a floor-slab and capstone; long axis E-W. The grave contained a vase, a miniature vase (both mouth upwards) and cremated bones (the latter were not preserved). *JCHAS* 51 (1946), 78. *JRSAI* 107 (1977), 81, no. 8.

BALLYSHURDANE, Co. Cork. OS 19

Three urns were found in a cist between 1900 and 1905: two of the vessels were in sherds, the third was unbroken and taken to Boston, USA. A rough sketch of this vessel made from a photograph by an Ordnance Survey reviser in 1932 suggests a necked vessel with all-over ornament. Kavanagh erroneously considers the pot to be a cordoned urn (her no. 10). In spite of apparent discrepancies in dates of discovery, this may be the same burial as that alleged to have been found in Aghacross, Co. Cork (above). *PRIA* 76 C (1976), 358. (OS information from Seán Ó Nualláin).

BALLYVORISHEEN, Co. Cork. OS 77

A large mound which covered a megalithic tomb or cist also contained two cists one of which contained skeletons. Two smaller mounds nearby apparently contained one cist each. *JCHAS* 19 (1913), 188; 50 (1945), 15.

BARRAHAURIN, Co. Cork. OS 49/50

Cist, found while ploughing, contained 'small bones'; not further disturbed. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 111.

BEALICK, Co. Cork. OS 71

A short rectangular slab-built cist measuring 51 by 41cm internally; its capstone was considered to have projected above ground level but the existence of a covering mound could not be proven. It contained an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 18), a vase and the cremated bones of a small adult. *JCHAS* 49 (1944), 116.

CASTLEHYDE, Co. Cork. OS 25

A short rectangular cist with paved floor, long axis N-S, and measuring approximately 92 by 76cm, contained a fossil encrinite and a vase reportedly half-filled with cremated bone. *JCHAS* 11 (1905), 187.

CASTLEMARTYR, Co. Cork. OS 77

A human skeleton, found by quarrymen in a limestone cave, was partly covered by thin gold plates connected by bits of wire; also found were several amber beads. One of the gold pieces and one amber bead (of irregular shape with a cylindrical perforation: P1948:306) are preserved in the National Museum. *JRSAI* 29 (1899), 413. Armstrong, *Catalogue of Irish Gold Ornaments* (1933), 42. Ashbee, *The Bronze Age Round Barrow in Britain* (1960), 115. *JCHAS* 50 (1945), 23.

CASTLERICHARD, Co. Cork. OS 77

Large collared urn (Kavanagh 23; Longworth 1984, no. 2220) found, apparently in a pit, inverted and containing the cremated bones of a young adolescent. *JCHAS* 73 (1968), 48.

CASTLESAFFRON, Co. Cork. OS 17/26

Three large urns were found in 1737, they are described as being over 1m high and one contained the disarticulated skeletal (?) remains of a man, the bones bound with copper wire. Macalister interpreted this strange find as a jar-burial. It could conceivably be a garbled account of a normal urn burial. Macalister, *The Archaeology of Ireland* (1928), 130.

CARN THIerna, COOLCARRON, Co. Cork. OS 35

A large mountain-top cairn covered a cist which contained a lidded vase and 'a small quantity of ashes'. A second cist, containing fragments of a pottery vessel, may also have been found but the nineteenth-century accounts of the discovery are vague. Borlase, *Dolmens of Ireland* (1897), Vol. I, 12. *JCHAS* 34 (1929), 57.

COOLHILL, Co. Cork. OS 121

A mound at Corran Hill was investigated c. 1840. Judging from the various hearsay accounts which survive the cairn may have possessed a kerb and two concentric internal walls. At its centre a vase and 'small bones' or 'ashes', presumably a cremation, were found, apparently protected by a stone slab. *PPS* 3 (1937), 362. *JCHAS* 43 (1938), 54; 44 (1939), 132; 61 (1956), 103.

COOLNAHANE, Co. Cork. Fig. 23 OS 31

Pit-grave found just E of a ringfort; the pit was about 95cm deep and contained an inverted encrusted urn. The urn contained the cremated bones of an adult and the lower part of a calcined

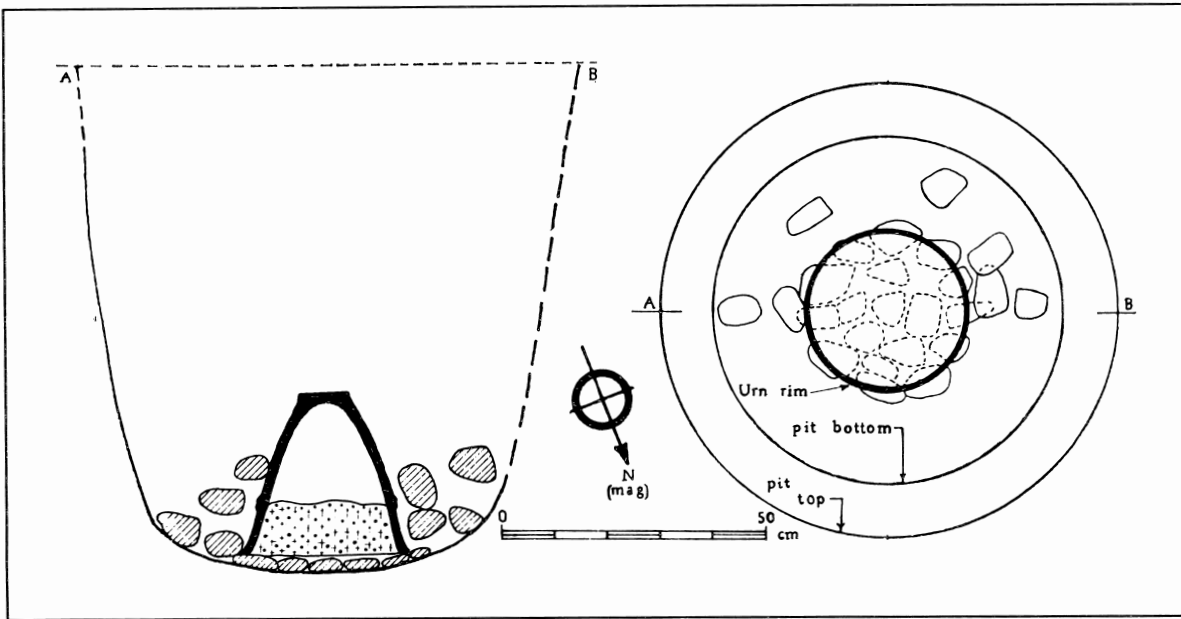


Fig. 23. Coolnahane, Co. Cork (after O'Kelly and Shee).

bone pin. *JCHAS* 80 (1974), 71.

CURRAGHBINNY, Co. Cork.

OS 99

A hilltop cairn with kerb measured about 15m in diameter (and had some 3m of spill beyond its kerb). No burial was found but a pile of clay and stones near the centre might, it is suggested, have covered an unburnt burial; a deposit of charcoal, a bone and teeth of a cow lay on this possible grave. An arc of stones about 1m across (opened to the NW) was also found beneath the mound. Some cremated bone and charcoal were found just inside the kerb on the SE and a few stones formed an annex to the kerb on the E. Finds in the cairn included a bronze ring and two deposits of water-rolled pebbles. *JCHAS* 38 (1933), 80.

GLENNAHULLA, Co. Cork.

OS 19

An urn was found in 1876 in what appears to have been a cist grave: the vessel fell to pieces on removal from the grave. The site of the discovery is close to the townland boundary with Ballyenahan North (*q.v.*) OS Field Memoranda no. 232B, A/109/132.

GORTAFLUDIG, Co. Cork.

OS 80

Short, sub-rectangular cist found 1939; built of six slabs and a capstone, its long axis lay E-W; it was approx. 61 by 46cm internally and held the cremated bones of an adult (20-25 years) and an in-

fant or newly-born child. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 111.

GORTAVEHY EAST, Co. Cork.

OS 38/47

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 19) found inverted on a slab 'not much bigger than itself around which were placed smaller flagstones on edge' – possibly a pit burial with a few protecting stones.

KILBARRY, Co. Cork.

OS 16/24

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 20) found inverted on a slab in what may have been a pit protected by a few stones; the urn contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 221.

LABBACALLEE, Co. Cork.

OS 27

One, or possibly two, cists had existed, in the excavators' opinion, at the western end of this wedge tomb: some unburnt bones and a few pot sherds survived. *PRIA* 43 C (1936), 81, 90.

LABBAMOLAGA, Co. Cork.

Fig. 24.

OS 10

Two burials were found in a sand and gravel pit in 1948: 1. A short, sub-rectangular cist was slab-built except for its northern end which was reportedly built of dry-masonry, it measured internally 76 by 61cm and was 81cm deep; its long axis lay N-S. On the floor-slab lay a deposit of cremated bone, representing an adult male, an adult female and a child of 4 to 6 years. The bones were accompanied by a vase which possibly stood mouth

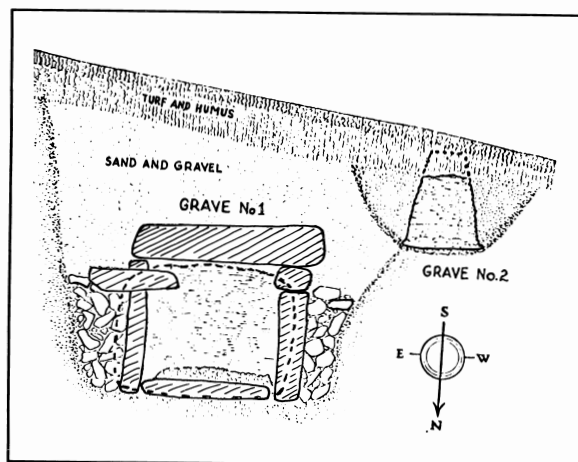


Fig. 24. Labbamolaga, Co. Cork (after O'Kelly).

upwards, a bone pin and a bone 'pendant'. 2. Approximately 30cm to the west of the cist and on a level with its capstone, a secondary burial was found. It consisted of a simple unprotected pit containing an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 21) and cremated bones, the latter were not preserved. *JCHAS* 55 (1950), 15.

MONADRISHANE, Co. Cork.

OS 27

Small cist found in 1958 said to have been about 61cm square and full of silt. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 111.

MONEEN, Co. Cork.

Fig. 25.

OS 27

A cemetery mound was placed concentrically within a Neolithic ring-ditch. The latter monument which had an internal diameter of approximately 15.80m, enclosed pits, stake-holes, spreads of charcoal etc., and produced pottery and some flint and quartz. The mound was low with a retaining kerb, 13.70m in diameter and some 1.37m in maximum height; a possible entrance in the kerb was noted on its northern side. Four graves were found in the mound and two further burials lay outside the kerb on the south-west. The majority of burials were found in the western half of the monument: 1. Cist of megalithic proportions placed almost centrally in the mound, long axis NW-SE, three sides built of double-walling, interior of somewhat trapezoidal plan; internal L 1.37m, W (at NW end) 1.22m, (at SE end) 91cm; massive capstone, paved floor. The primary burial consisted of the unburnt remains of 2 adults, a male and possibly a female, these were greatly disturbed by a secondary cremation, that of a youth of 10-20

years. 2. Small slab-built cist 91 by 30cm internally, 46cm deep, long axis NW-SE; disturbed. It contained the unburnt bones of an adult male, possibly disarticulated. 3. Small cist 51 by 38cm internally, only 15cm deep (from floor-slab to capstone), long axis E-W, empty; no evidence that it contained a burial. 4. Short cist 51 by 38cm internally, 56cm. deep long axis E-W. Contained the disarticulated, unburnt bones of two adults, a male and female, and a child. 5. Outside the kerb of the mound on the SW, a slab-covered circular pit 90cm in diameter and 46cm deep contained an unidentifiable cremation accompanied by fragments of two bowls. This burial was greatly disturbed by no. 6.6. A pit-burial placed on the SW edge of the mound outside the remains of the ditch of the Neolithic monument but enclosed by a specially dug arc of ditch added to the latter: in the pit was an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 22) containing the cremated bones of an adult, possibly male; black ashes, possibly from the cremation pyre, were packed around the vessel. A second vessel, of which only the rim survived, had been placed on the edge of the pit. The whole had possibly been covered by a low pile of stones. Finds from the mound included sherds of beaker pottery and possibly bowl, five saddle-querns, four rubbing stones, an axe-hammer and a bone point. *PRIA* 54 C (1952), 121.

OATENCAKE, Co. Cork.

OS 76

An urn burial was found in the course of digging a drainage trench, no cist was noted and all traces of the presumed pit were destroyed. The urn, of the cordoned class (Kavanagh 11; collared urn according to Longworth 1984, no. 2221), was found lying on its side. It contained the cremated bones of a fully grown individual of slender build, probably female. *JCHAS* 52 (1947), 126.

SHEEPWALK, Co. Cork.

Fig. 26.

OS 27

Short rectangular cist, long axis NNW-SSE, floorslab; contained crouched skeleton of a male 18-19 years. *JCHAS* 70 (1965), 122.

ALTAGHONEY, Co. Derry.

OS 28/29

Three cists each containing an urn and calcined bones found in 1835. Three bowls are preserved from this area. Also see Clagan (below). Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 431 (Cumber, Upper). *UJA* 32 (1969), 60 (Kilcattan).

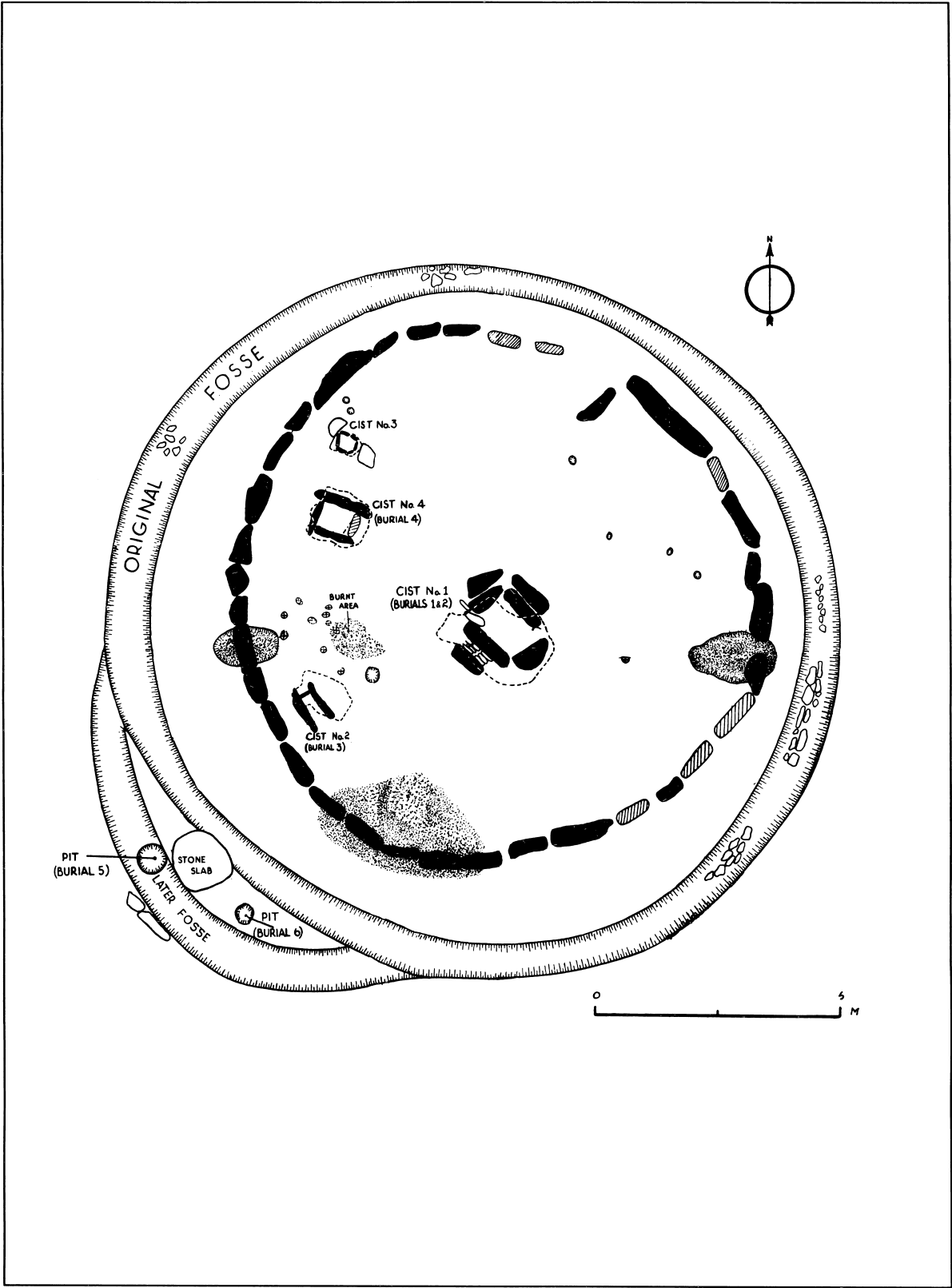


Fig. 25. Moneen, Co. Cork (after O'Kelly).

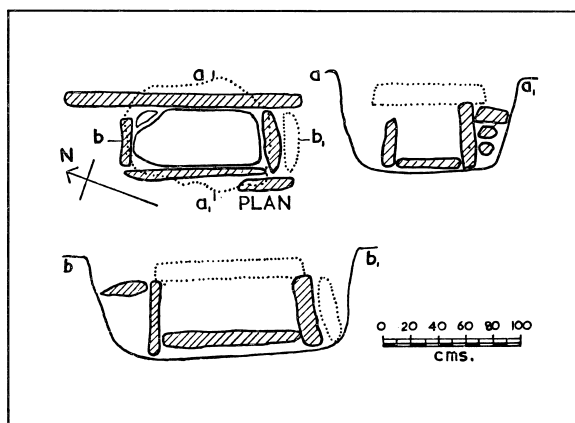


Fig. 26. Sheepwalk, Co. Cork (after Murphy).

BALLINTAGGART, Co. Derry

OS 11

Several earthen urns containing bones and ashes found under cairns of stones on the farm of J. Hemphill in 1775. OS Memoir Lissan parish.

CORNACLERY, Ballydullaghan td., Co. Derry.

Fig. 27.

OS 26

An almost circular cairn, with kerb, covered four or five burials mainly in its eastern half: A: very small rectangular cist, only 74 by 23cm contained sherds of a bowl; no bones found; long axis NNW–SSE. B: rectangular cist with massive capstone lay a little off centre, 114 by 92cm, with paved floor; long axis almost NW–SE. It contained the crouched skeleton of a male 25–30 years lying on its right side with head to NW; a bowl stood at the NW corner beside the skull. C: polygonal cist, of small stones, 53cm in diameter which contained cremated bones of an adult and a bowl lying on its side; a flint flake also found. D: disturbed, similar to C, cremated bones, quartz pebble and urn sherds (? cordoned urn) recovered; the bones represented an adult male and a child. E: an unprotected cremation, possibly part of D. *JRSAI* 72 (1942), 81.

BONNANABOIGH, Co. Derry.

OS 24

A mound in the holding of S. Gordon was 30ft in diameter and 6ft high and chiefly composed of clay. There is mention of an altar (?) 6 by 5ft by 3ft high in the west and on the summit of this mound. Three feet below the surface of the mound four 'well shaped graves of ordinary size, each containing a quantity of bones and also in the centre an ancient earthen urn containing a quantity of bones and ashes'. OS Memoir Bovevagh parish.

CLAGAN, Co. Derry.

OS 29

A sketch of a dilapidated cairn shows a cist and a bowl (now in NMI); there appears to be a megalithic tomb on the south of the circular mound. OS Memoir Banagher parish. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59 ('Altaghoney'). (Information on provenance from S. Briggs).

CLARAGH, Co. Derry.

OS 27

An atypical urn (related to cordoned urns: listed as such by Kavanagh, 12) was found in a slight depression in the gravelly subsoil of a low hill; it was found with a quantity of cremated bones representing one adult, probably female; its missing base might suggest that it was inverted. *UJA* 28 (1965), 73.

COOLYVENNY, Co. Derry.

OS 11

In 1820, two urns of two quart capacity were found inverted over bones in a gravel pit, in one of them there was a small brass ornament the size of a crown piece. OS Memoir Macosquin parish.

CRAIGADICK, Co. Derry.

OS 36

A grave was found on top of Silver Hill, it was 5ft by 2½ and 2ft deep and roofed with long flat stones. It contained several earthen pans containing bones and ashes. Several graves of similar description were found beneath the surface of the same hill. In 1836, Hugh Cassidy in demolishing an ancient grave, found along with the earthen crocks containing calcined bones and ashes, a small bronze ring about 1inch in diameter but greatly corroded. OS Memoir Maghera parish.

CREEVAGH Upper, Derry, Co. Derry.

OS 20

Bowl found in cist with skeletal remains. UM. (Information from D. McCourt.)

KNOCKNACART, Crossgare td., Co. Derry.

Fig. 28.

OS 11

A small flat cemetery of three burials in a gravel hillock: A: a cremation, apparently in a pit, accompanied by a bowl; no precise details survive. B: approximately 2m west of A; short rectangular cist of small stones, with paved floor, no capstone found, it contained a bowl, standing mouth upwards, and some oak charcoal. The cremated bones of an adult, possibly female, were found in the soil above the cist. C: about 3m north of B, a pit contained a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 13) inverted on a flat stone. The urn, which had a small hole in its

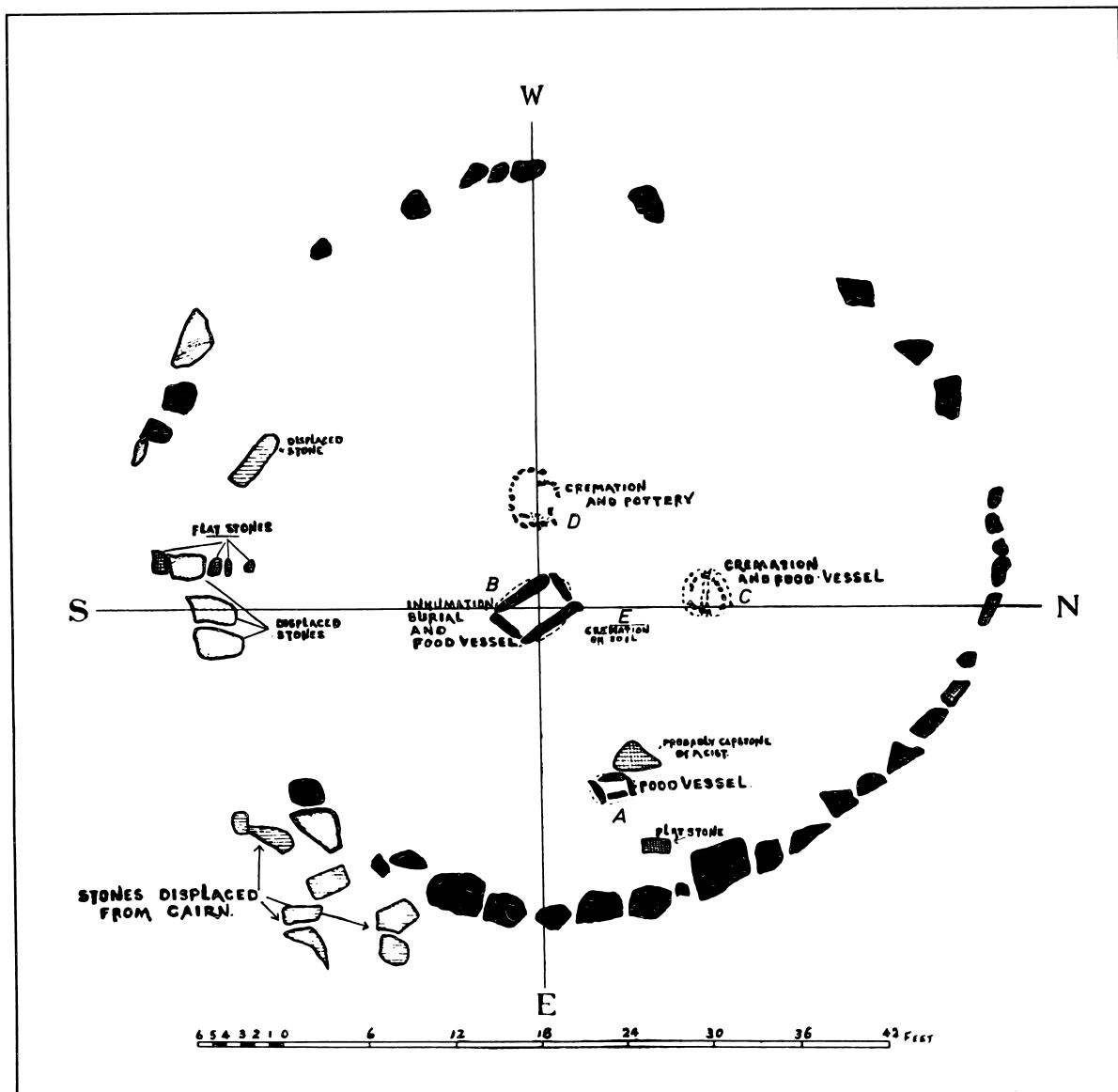


Fig. 27. Cornaclery, Co. Derry (after May).

base covered by a small piece of slate, contained the cremated bones of an adult male of about 40 years and a few hazel nuts. A few pieces of hazel and oak charcoal lay beside the pot. *UJA* 7 (1944), 64.

CULNAGREW, Co. Derry.

OS 26

Bones and urn found under large standing stone on hill, another urn and bones found under a stone four feet away. A cairn (43ft to south) contained a cist 3ft by 2ft by 2ft deep in which an urn and bones were found. OS Memoir Maghera parish. (Information on provenance from S. Briggs).

CUMBER, Co. Derry.

OS 23

A bowl found in the late 19th century 'along with several others' (*i.e.* 'urns') may, in fact, have come from a flat cemetery. No details of burial rites are preserved but mention is made of a cup (a miniature vase) found within 'a much larger urn' containing fragments of burnt bone (lost). *JRSAI* 21 (1890-91), 436; 107 (1977), 81, no. 10.

DERRYARD, Flanders, Co. Derry.

OS 24/25

At Flander's Fort on the holding of A. McSparran, an ancient mound 25ft by 20ft and 5ft high is reported. Three feet from the surface of the mound

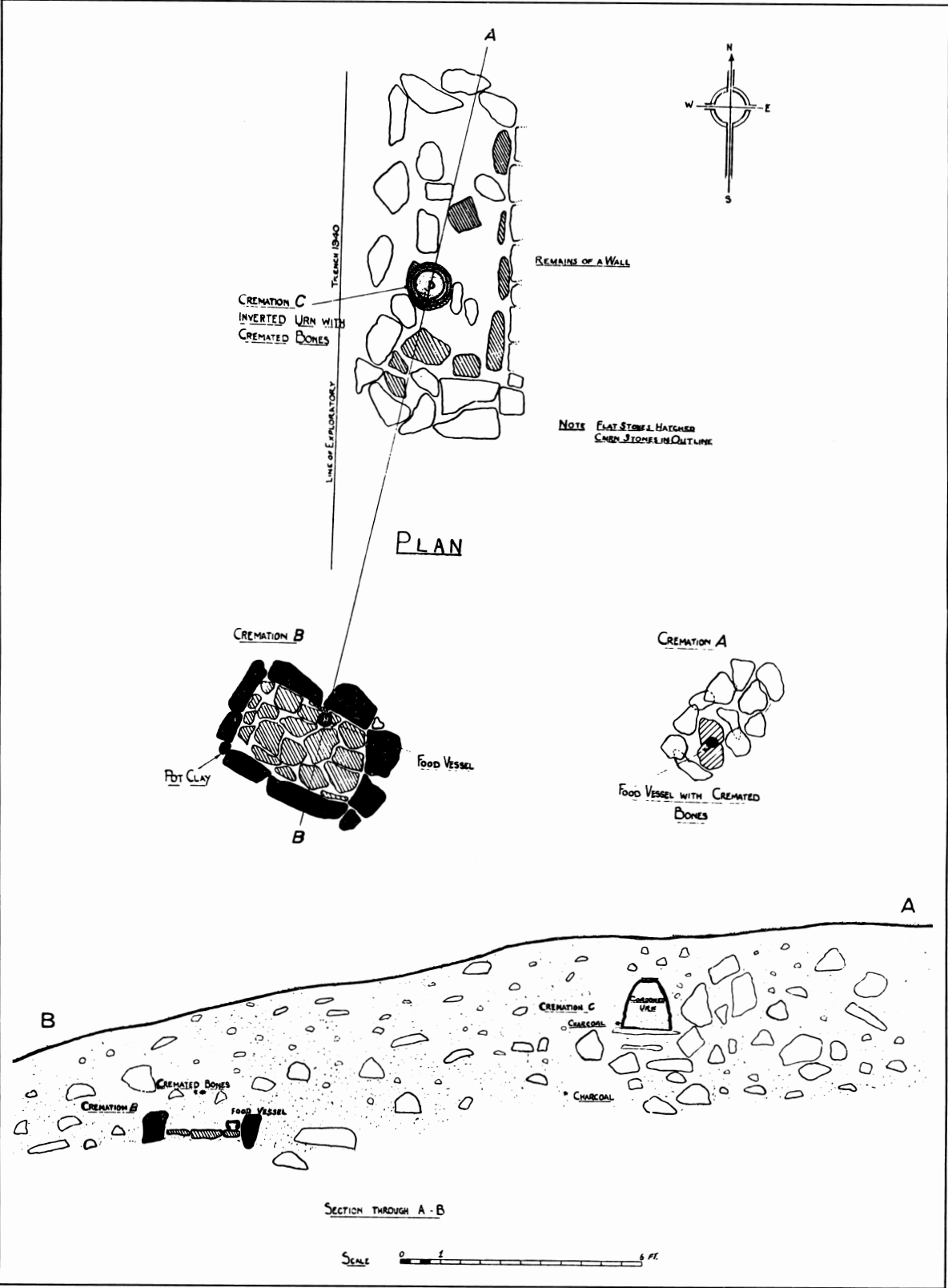


Fig. 28. Knocknacart, Crossgare, Co. Derry (after May).

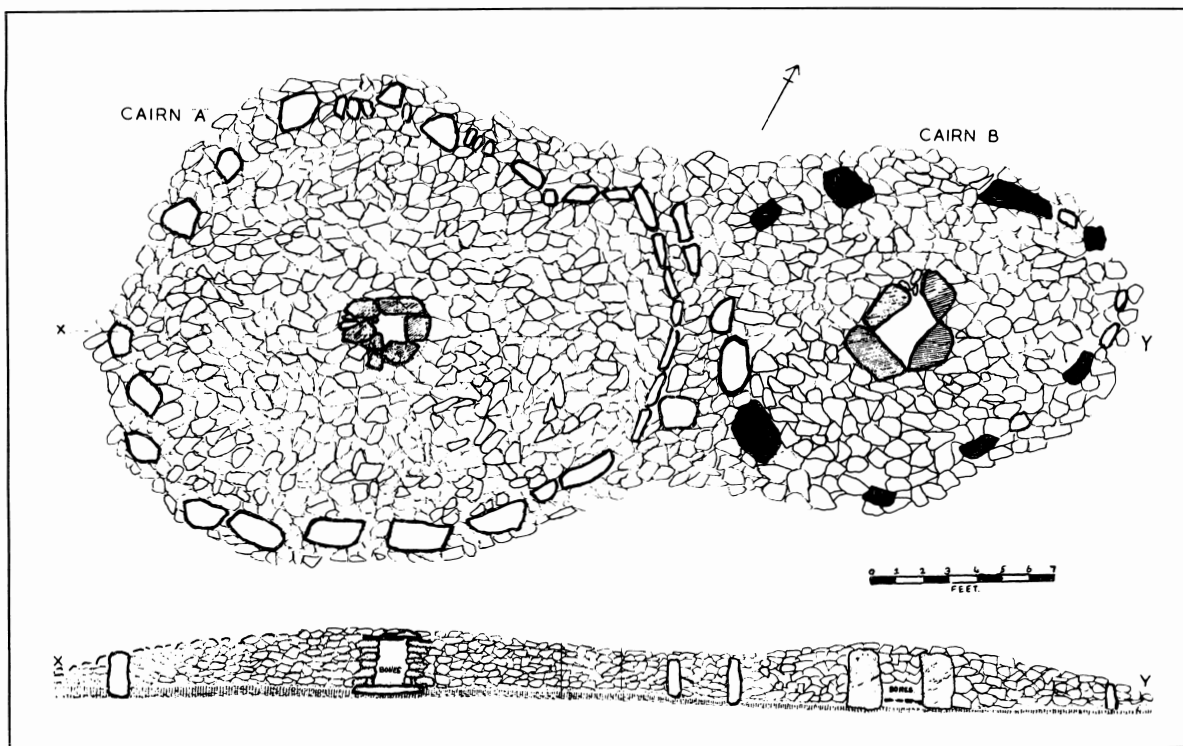


Fig. 29. Gortacloghan, Co. Derry (after May).

and four feet from the edge were found several small earthen vessels containing a quantity of ashes, each resembling the ancient urns, broad in the bottom and narrow in the neck, being ten inches high and five inches in rim circumference. They were placed at set and equal distance from each other. In the centre of the mound was a pavement 12ft long and 5ft broad and in its centre a stone 18ins long. It was sunk in the ground and protruded above the ground, each end was conical. Under this was a large quantity of cremated bone and under this a pit 4ft deep and enclosed at sides and end with a well built wall. Right under the mound several fire places were found. The bones and urns were reburied in a large pit. OS Memoir Bovevagh parish. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 101.

DRUMCONREADY, Co. Derry.

OS 36

Several earthen urns containing calcined bones and ashes reported, they were found in 'circular stone buildings and covered with flat stones'. OS Memoir Maghera parish.

DUNMORE, Co. Derry.

OS 6/10

In this townland there is a fort converted into garden by John Fisher. In it were four crocks full of

bones, two of the crocks were ribbed and black, very long and narrow, each contains four gallons. Some were found with the mouth downwards and four feet under surface. Some of the bones were in a dark mould. The earth of the fort was of a sandy nature. The pots were reburied in the same place. OS Memoir Limavady parish.

DUNTIBRYAN, Co. Derry.

OS 36/41

A cave or caves found five feet beneath the surface of a sandy hill: several 'small apartments' three feet long and a number of small earthen crocks reported. OS Memoir Ballynascreen parish.

GORTACLOGHAN, Co. Derry.

Fig. 29. OS 26

Two cairns each covered a cist: A: round cairn with kerb covered a polygonal dry masonry cist built on a flat stone (with two overlapping slabs as capstones); it contained the cremated bones of an adult. B: small oval cairn covered a small rectangular cist of four slabs (no capstone mentioned) measuring 69cm by 41cm by 51cm deep; it had a roughly paved floor and contained the cremated bone of an adult and a potsherd. *UJA* 11 (1948), 54.

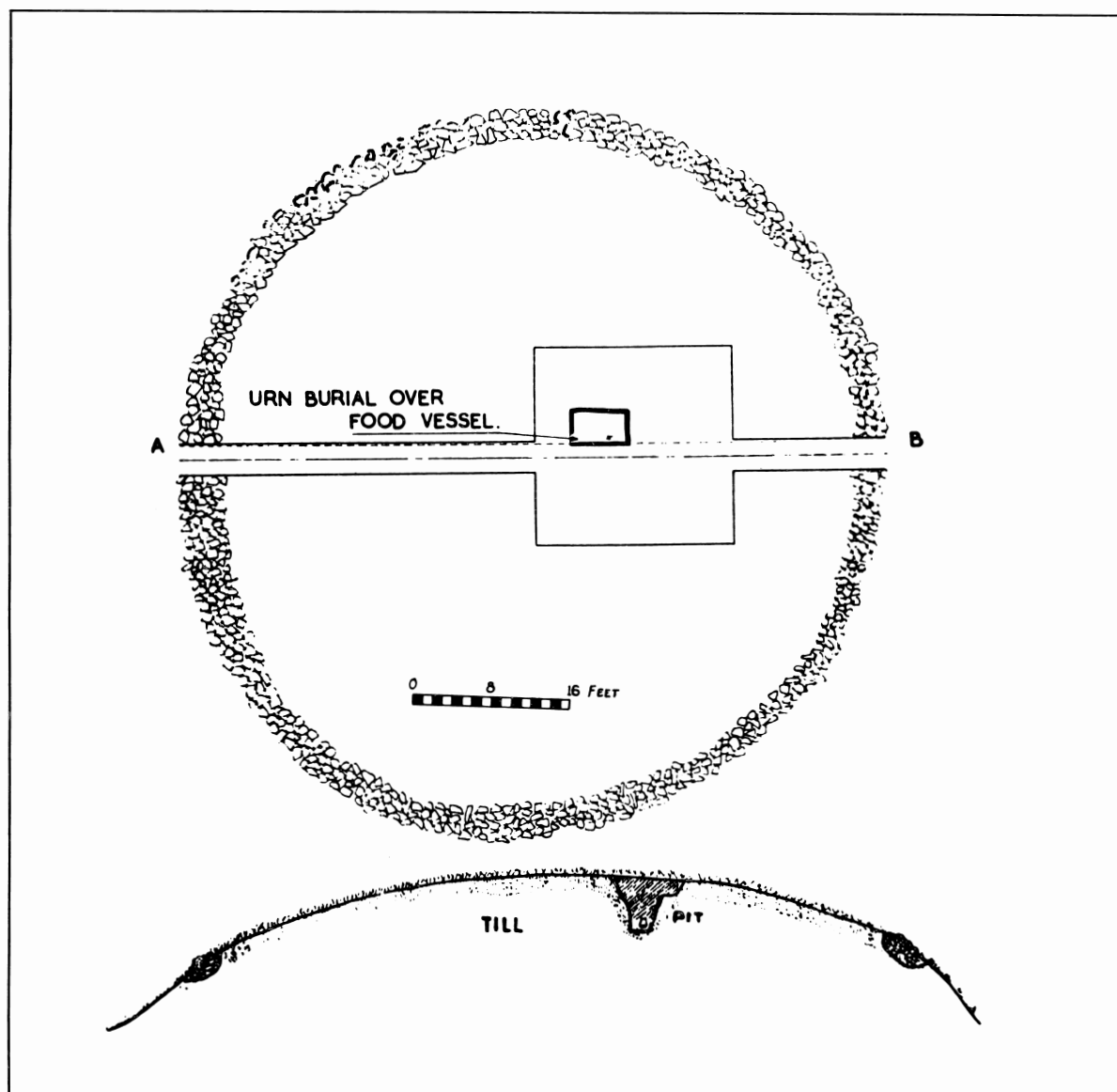


Fig. 30. Gortcorbies, Co. Derry (after May).

GORTCORBIES, Co. Derry. Fig. 30. OS 10 A stone-filled ditch encircled the summit of a low hillock and enclosed an area about 21m across. E of centre a long pit about 2m by 1 by 1.37m deep contained an inverted collared urn (Kavanagh 24; Longworth 1984, no 2233) which held the cremated bones of an adult male, a bone pin and a burnt plano-convex flint knife. The urn lay 20cm above the floor of the pit, sherds of a bowl and a flint blade were found 10cm below it and a sherd of beaker, a few flints and a few fragments of cremated bone were found in the fill of the pit. A small cairn nearby covered a polygonal structure which

contained a few fragments of burnt bone, sherds of beaker and a bowl containing a pyramidal pile of eight small stones. *JRSAI* 77 (1947), 6.

GORTFAD, Co. Derry.

OS 26 Two cordoned urns (Kavanagh 15–16) found close together – how close is not stated: A: inverted in a pit; the urn contained the cremated and comminuted bones of an old adult (?) male and possibly another individual; some charcoal fragments (alder) were also found in the urn. B: stood mouth upwards in a pit, had ‘a protecting ring of stones’; the urn contained the cremated and comminuted

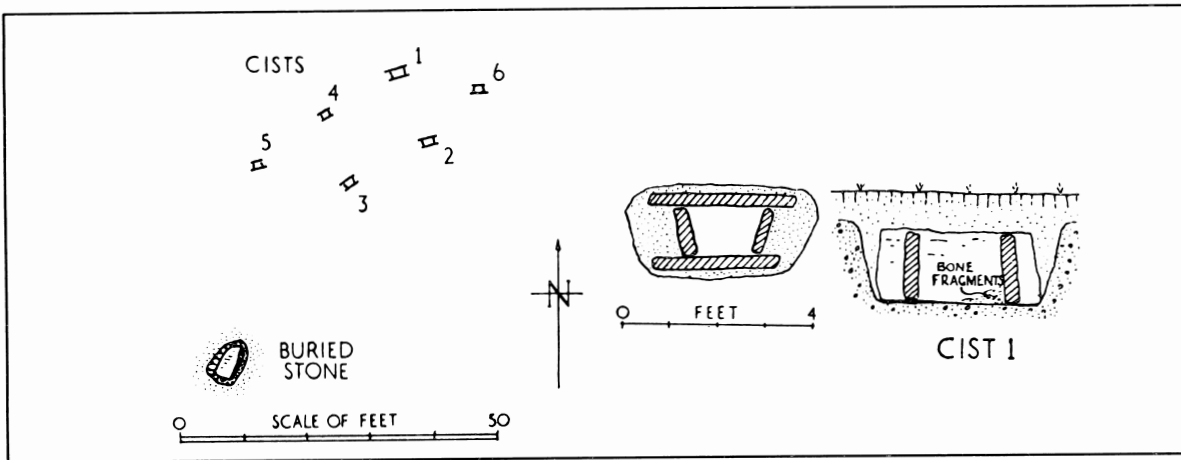


Fig. 31. Shantallow, Co. Derry (after Jope).

bones of one individual, possibly female. *UJA* 22 (1959), 33.

KNOCKNAKEERAGH, Co. Derry.

In 1814, three ancient earthenware urns containing bones were found three feet beneath the surface of a sandy hill on the farm of H. Anderson. OS Memoir Ballyrashane parish.

KNOCKONEILL, Co. Derry.

Miniature cordoned urn found in a pit beneath a round cairn incorporating an earlier court tomb; the inverted urn contained some cremated bones and a biconical cup (Kavanagh 11, who classes the cordoned urn as a 'food vessel'). *ANL* 1, no 9 (1949), 7. *PSAMNI* 201. *PRIA* 60 C (1960), 115. *UJA* 43 (1980), 9.

LARGANTEA, Co. Derry.

A round cairn (one of three in close proximity to one another) measured 11m in diameter. Scraps of cremated bone, charcoal and four insignificant, unclassifiable pot sherds found in centre. One worked flint and waste pieces also found. *UJA* 3 (1940), 68.

LIMAVADY, Co. Derry.

A pit contained an inverted vase urn; cremated bones recovered represented two individuals. *UJA* 40 (1977), 89.

MAGHERABOY, Co. Derry.

Vase urn inverted in a pit; contained cremated bones of one adult (possibly one other individual). *UJA* 23 (1960), 12.

MONEYRANNEL, Co. Derry.

At least 6 urns found at a depth of about 1m 'in two rows three feet apart and two feet between the rows'. Urns fell to pieces on removal. Sherds of at least one cordoned urn (Kavanagh 18), a fragment of bronze and a perforated whet-stone are preserved. *UJA* 32 (1969), 65.

MULLAGHMEASH MT., Co. Derry.

A small cist found near the edge of a small cairn was built of four slabs and measured 48cm by 38cm by 23cm; it contained a bowl and cremated bones. No further details. *UJA* 6 (1943), 110.

PUBBLE, LOUGHERMORE, Co. Derry.

Excavation of a barrow surrounded by a ditch with external bank revealed a centrally-placed pit ceremonially filled with sand and turves. A little cremated bone was found at the top of the pit. The covering mound had been disturbed but traces of a small cist survived. C14 dates suggest the barrow was constructed between 1600 and 1300 bc. *PRIA* 81 C (1981), 29.

SHANTALLOW, Co. Derry.

A small flat cemetery of six short rectangular cists; of three investigated, one produced a few fragments of cremated bone; no other finds. All the cists were similarly orientated E-W to NE-SW. *UJA* 15 (1952), 70.

SLAGHTAVERY, Co. Derry.

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 24) inverted, presumably in a pit; contained the cremated bones of an adult female. *UJA* 9 (1946), 104.

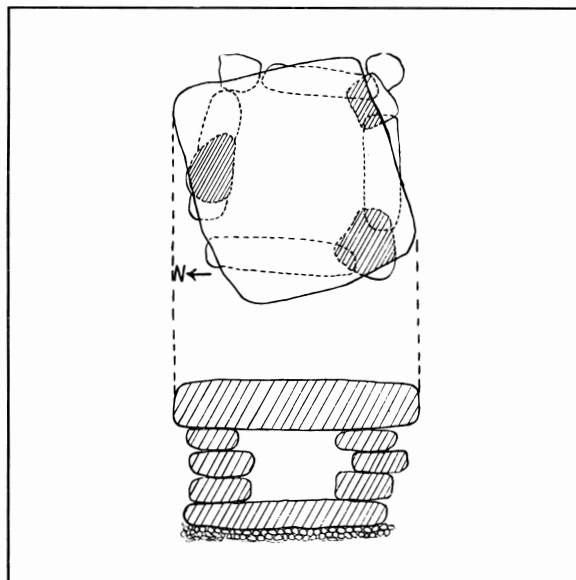


Fig. 32. Bellanascaddan, Co. Donegal
(after S. P. Ó Ríordáin).

SLAGHTNEILL, Co. Derry.

OS 32

A 'stone grave' covered by a cairn is reported. Another cairn 17ft in diameter 70 yards from this. Near this second one there is another, part of which was removed when three urns containing bones and ashes were found, two of them were about 6in high, small in the mouth, swelling out towards the middle, the third was about 2ft high and not small in the mouth; the large one was inverted when found and enclosed in a stone cist. Cairn had 35ft diameter and stood 3½ft higher than the surrounding ground, it was contained within two concentric stone circles, each 5ft from the other. OS Memoir Killelagh parish. See *PSAMNI* 207.

STRAWMORE, Co. Derry.

OS 35/40

In 1822, five ancient crocks containing calcined bone and ashes were found. They were carved on the surface and covered in the mouth with flat stones; all mouldered away on exposure. Human bones 'in small chambers' were also found in the vicinity of a standing stone in this townland. OS Memoir Ballynascreen parish.

TAMNYAGAN, Co. Derry.

OS 30

Short rectangular cist found in 1936; it measured 46 by 30 by about 31cm deep and the floor was paved; long axis E-W, side walls overlapped the ends. It contained a bowl and cremated bones. *UJA* 6 (1943), 111.

TAMNYRANKIN, Co. Derry.

OS 26

Three urns containing bones and black earth were found inverted in a small hill, the pots were very thick and curiously carved and one is said to have had an inscription with three brass hoops (?). OS Memoir Desertoghill parish.

BALLYARR, Co. Donegal.

OS 45

A tumulus, investigated c. 1854, yielded a cist grave which contained a vase and, apparently, a larger urn. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 286. *BAP* 1, fig. 395. *UJA* 32 (1969), 62.

BALLYBUNINABBER, Co. Donegal.

OS 44

A large cist six to seven feet in length was discovered about 1830 in a small cairn some fifteen yards in diameter. 'The grave contained the remains of a human skeleton at the shoulders of which lay two small earthen urns, carved on the external and each containing a small quantity of pulverised earth and calcined bones and each seated on, and also covered by thin flags – This discovery created much interest in the locality – The Urns were given to some neighbouring gentlemen'. These details were recorded by Thomas Fagan c. 1845. The site is also recorded in the Name Books of the Ordnance Survey: 'About three or four years ago a grave was discovered in this townland and the bones of a man supposed to have been a Druid were found in it – on each side of the head was found an earthen vase *one of which is now in the possession of Mr. Cochran, Edenmore near Stranorlar*, the other was broken and the fragments lost – near the grave was found a golden fibula which was sold to Mr Foy, late postmaster of Letterkenny for £4'. (The phrase referring to Mr. Cochran, and here italicised, has been crossed out in the Name Book). Lacy, *Archaeological Survey of Co. Donegal* (1983), nos. 142 and 238. Ordnance Survey Hill Drawing Antiquity Books (compiled by Thomas Fagan), Book 9, p. 6; Name Book, Kilmacrenan parish, Book 1, p. 42. (Information from Eamon Cody).

BALLYSHANNON, Co. Donegal.

OS 107

A vase, two vase urns and an encrusted urn are said to have been found in a sand-pit near Ballyshannon. No other details of this discovery are known: possible flat cemetery. *PRIA* 42 C (1934–5), 166.

BELLANASCADDAN, Co. Donegal. Fig. 32. OS 45
Almost square cist with floor slab (about 60cm

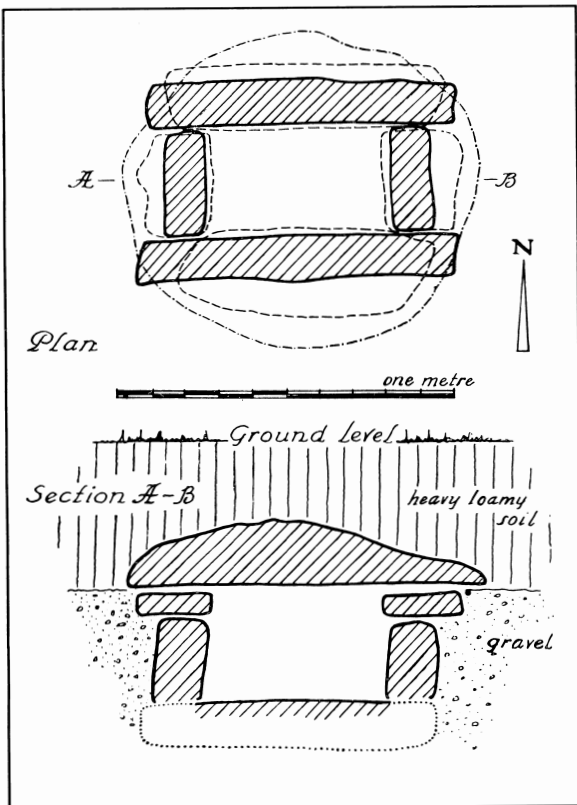


Fig. 33. Bunnamayne, Co. Donegal
(after MacDonagh and Hartnett).

long) contained a bowl and cremated bones of an adult. Another cist may have been found nearby at the beginning of the century. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 166.

BREDAGH GLEN, Co. Donegal.

OS 21

Three vases and cremated bone were found in a short rectangular cist. *NMI*.

BUNNAMAYNE, Co. Donegal. Fig. 33. OS 47 Short rectangular cist found in the course of ploughing, slab-built with floor slab and capstone, 56 by 33 by 30cm deep; long axis E-W. The contents were disturbed after discovery but it was ascertained that a deposit of cremated bones had lain at the west end of the cist and two vases had apparently stood mouth upwards and side by side at the east end. *JRSAI* 81 (1951), 48. *UJA* 32 (1969), 62.

CARNAGHAN, Co. Donegal.

OS 37

A vase, sherds of a vase urn, and a small plain accessory vessel were found in 1880 in or near a megalithic tomb known as the King's Grave. It is not certain if the pots came from the tomb or from

what may be the remains of a large secondary cist in the cairn. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 168. *UJA* 1 (1938), 46; 32 (1969), 62. *JRSAI* 59 (1929), 166; 92 (1962), 151; 113 (1983), 94 (portal tomb).

CARRICKBALLYDOOEY, Co. Donegal.

OS 54.

A polygonal cist of seven slabs and capstone with its longer axis N-S measured 1.10m by 0.80m in maximum internal dimensions. It contained the crouched skeleton of a middle-aged male lying on a paved floor with head to S and facing W. A plano-convex flint knife lay under the rib cage. *Donegal Annual* 12 (1977), 49.

CARRICKBRACK, Co. Donegal.

Fig. 34. OS 70

Short rectangular cist 64cm by 48cm, long axis E-W, paved floor; contained cremated bones accompanied by a bowl; flint flake, thumb-scraper and quartz chips also found. Another cist was found, apparently in the same field c. 1895, it contained a bowl, no bones recorded. A third short rectangular cist, 54cm by 25cm., was found in this townland in 1963; it produced no finds. *JRSAI* 26 (1896), 382; 88 (1958), 145; 100 (1970), 113.

CARRONTLIEVE, Co. Donegal.

OS 38

Six short rectangular cists found within an area of about 7m by 4m. Only three contained some cremated bone; four cists were waterlogged when found: A: NE-SW, 71 by 40cm, no finds. B: E-W, 35 by 33cm, some cremated bone. C: NNE-SSW, 86cm by 50cm, no finds. D: E-W, 44cm by 30cm, some cremated bone. E: NE-SW, 110cm by 56cm, no finds. F: NNE-SSW, 67cm by 39cm, some cremated bone. *JRSAI* 92 (1962), 152.

CASTLEQUARTER, Co. Donegal.

OS 38

Bowl 'found with a skull in a stone built grave about 2ft square and of the same height'. Another cist and a standing stone reported nearby. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 113.

CRAIG, Co. Donegal.

OS 39

A short rectangular cist found in 1909 measured 97cm by 54cm, and 56cm in depth; its long axis lay east-west. It contained a crouched skeleton and a bowl. No further details of grave available. *JRSAI* 39 (1909), 93.

DRUMHAGGART, Co. Donegal.

OS 39

A flat cemetery of six or seven cists found in a sand or gravel ridge, all contained cremated bones. One

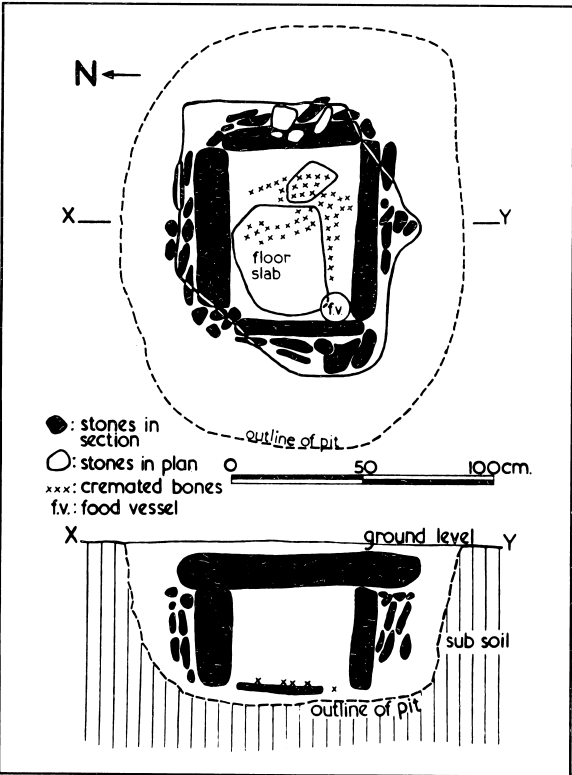


Fig. 34. Carrickbrack, Co. Donegal (after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

cist (described as coffin-shaped and measuring 61cm by 38cm) also contained a biconical cup (Kavanagh 12). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 113.

DRUNG, Co. Donegal. Fig. 35. OS 4
A small flat cemetery was uncovered in 1961 in the course of sand quarrying: it was stratigraphically situated above a shell midden which produced a sherd of thick, coarse, pottery and a number of flint scrapers. Three cist graves were found: 1. A short rectangular cist, slab-built, measuring 1m 30cm by 65cm internally, about 50cm deep, long axis E–W. It contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male on its right side, head towards the eastern end of the grave; behind the skull a small biconical cup (Kavanagh 13) was found (whether mouth upwards or inverted is not recorded). 2. A short rectangular slab-built cist, measuring internally 85cm by 50cm, 40cm in depth, long axis N–S. It contained the crouched skeleton of an adult female lying on its right side, the skull in the SE corner of the grave. ‘The skull rested on the folded forearms, the fingers of the right hand overlapped the elbows of the left arm, and the fingers of the left hand were in the region of the right elbow’. An unidentified brownish material was noted adhering to some of the bones. Near the left hand a piece of

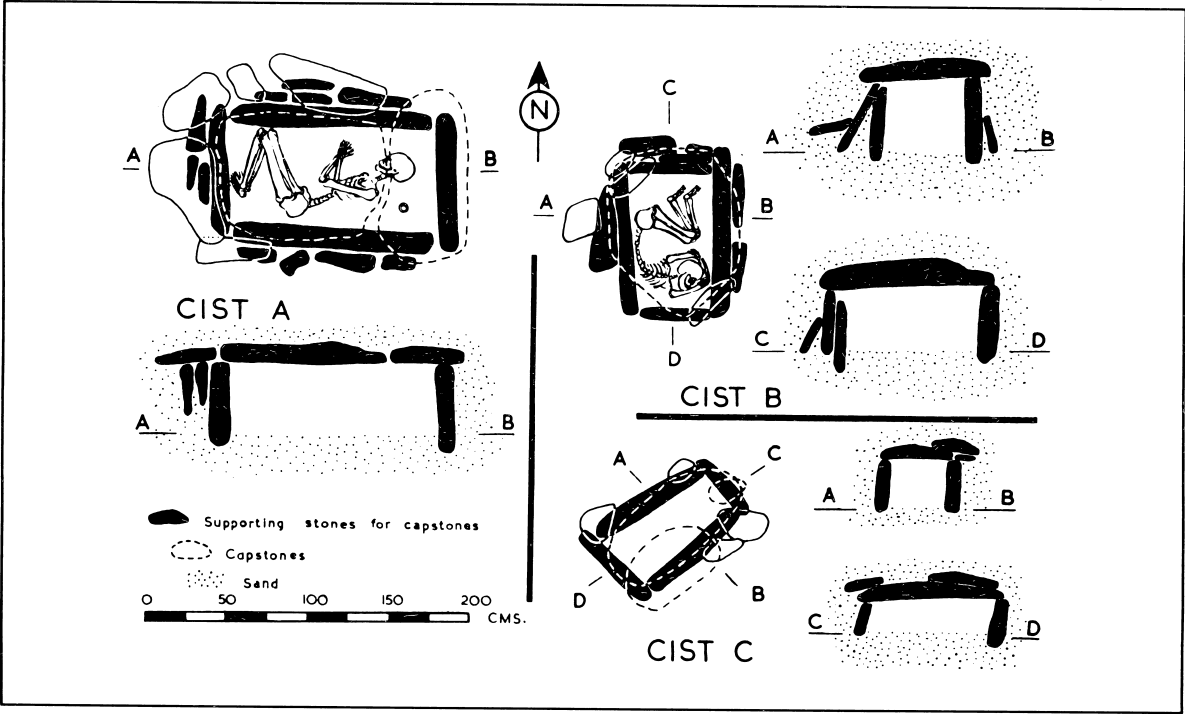


Fig. 35. Drung, Co. Donegal (after Rynne).

rock crystal was found, and a bronze awl lay underneath the forearm near the right elbow. This grave lay some 1m 50cm north of no 1. 3. Short rectangular slab-built cist measuring 80cm by 30cm internally, 25cm deep, long axis NE-SW. It contained the almost completely decomposed fragments of the skeleton of a foetus or new-born infant. *JRSAI* 93 (1963), 169.

DUNFANAGHY, Co. Donegal. OS 15
A cist (?) yielded portions of two skulls. *JRSAI* 28 (1898), 49.

DUNMORE, Co. Donegal. OS –
A pit said to have measured 90cm by 60cm by 50cm was found in the course of ploughing, it was covered by a flat slab and contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 92 (1962), 152.

FAHAN, Co. Donegal. OS 38
An urn burial was found, in September, 1823, 'in clearing out a new yard or space round a new church, and where the oldest man living never heard of anyone being buried. The article is an urn, shaped something like a beehive (but open on top), and about the size of one. It was found resting on a flag, was full of bones and was (covered?) with one like itself and a flag over all, with a rude wall enclosing it. Near to it was found several graves made of stones, shaped like coffins, with the skeletons entire lying in them, but no remnants of timber or dress. The place where the new church stands was a grove, cut down to make room for the church and yard in which these relics were found. The urn is of earthenware, rudely carved (?) and almost returned to its parent earth'. Masserene Papers. D207/28/336. Belfast PRO (Information from B. Williams).

FINNER, Co. Donegal. OS 107
Near a passage tomb, a 'grave' was broken into and found to contain cremated bones and a 'fine cinerary urn'. Wood-Martin, *Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland* (1888), 160. *JRSAI* 18(1887-8), 159. Herity, *Irish Passage Graves* (1974), 215.

GORTLUSH, Co. Donegal. OS 47
A cordoned urn (Kavanagh 20) was found mouth upwards in a circular pit, the lower part of which was filled with small flags; the mouth of the urn was covered by a large flat stone and it contained the cremated remains of one or two adults and a child.

PRIA 42 C (1935), 171.

GORTNATRAW SOUTH, Co. Donegal. OS 27
Short, sub-rectangular cist found in a gravel ridge; 90cm by 57cm; long axis approx. NNW-SSE, paved floor; sherds of bowl recovered, no bones noted. *JRSAI* 97 (1967), 8.

KILLYCOLMAN, Co. Donegal. OS 28
A cairn which may have been about 12m in diameter and 2m in maximum height was reportedly surrounded by rough dry-stone walling, and, outside of this, a flat bottomed ditch. It contained a large number of cists, perhaps as many as twenty-five. The burials were mostly unburnt but some of the cists contained cremations. A number of pottery vessels were found but only one vase survives. A large number of quartz pebbles was noted among the cairn material. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-35), 173.

KILMONASTER MIDDLE, Co. Donegal. OS 70
Sites F and G may have been cemetery mounds containing cists. A cist in the latter site is said to have contained a 'full skeleton accompanied by a brass hatchet'. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 11.

KINNEGAR, Co. Donegal. OS 28
Cist and cairn disturbed by sea, cist measured about 90cm by 60cm and contained remains of cremation of one individual, possibly female. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 329.

LABBADISH, Co. Donegal. OS 54
Cist, in gravel ridge, destroyed, apparently short rectangular with capstone which measured 1.40m by 0.80m. A bowl was recovered: no bones noted. *JRSAI* 97 (1967), 8.

LAHEEN, Co. Donegal. OS 103/107
Short rectangular or square cist said to have measured about 76cm in length and much the same in width; no bones noted, a flint thumb-seraper found. *JRSAI* 99 (1969), 96.

LAHEEN, Co. Donegal. OS 103.
Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 21) found in a pit covered by a stone slab; the urn was inverted and contained cremated bones and a stone battle axe; two sherds of bowl or vase (?) were also found. The short cist (above) was found in the same field. *JRSAI* 97 (1967), 39.

LETTERBRICK, Co. Donegal.

OS 67

A tumulus contained three cists: one was short rectangular, 84cm by 46cm deep, and contained two bowls and unburnt bones. Two other small cists contained nothing but a little 'mould'. *BAP* 1, fig. 242, 243. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 113.

Near LETTERKENNY, Co. Donegal.

OS 53

Two short rectangular cists found a few feet apart: 1: long axis E-W, 56cm by 46cm by 41cm deep, floor slab, contained a small vessel and cremated bones. 2: the other was 'formed exactly like the first but slightly larger', similar contents. One bi-conical cup is preserved. *JRSAI* 22 (1892), 292. *PRIA* 42 C (1935), 169.

LOSSETT, Co. Donegal. Fig. 36.

OS 44

A short, rectangular, cist was found in a sand-ridge, slab-built, its side slabs inclined slightly inwards; it measured 112cm by 34cm internally and its long axis lay E-W. Cremated bones lay on the floor slab. Outside the cist, to the south, some 80cm below the surface, sherds of an encrusted vase were found. *JRSAI* 90 (1960), 9.

LOUGHFAD, Co. Donegal. Fig. 37.

OS 64

A segmented cist in an oval mound with boulder kerb contained disarticulated bones in each compartment; the bones were those of two adults, one a male. *UJA* 5 (1942), 122.

LOUGHAGANNON, Co. Donegal.

OS 45/53

Bowl said to have been found 'in a cist' *JRSAI* 91 (1961), 85.

MOVILLE, Co. Donegal.

OS 21/22

A vase and a tanged flint knife are recorded as having been found with another vessel (lost) in 'an erased tumulus near Moville'. *UJA* 32 (1969), 62.

MULLAGHEEP, Co. Donegal. Fig. 38.

OS 45

A short rectangular cist found in the course of ploughing; it was slab-built and measured 61cm by 38cm internally, and approximately 41cm in depth. A cremation, scattered on the floor, was accompanied by a vase lying on its side near one end. *UJA* 7 (1944), 95; 32 (1969), 63. *JRSAI* 94 (1964), 95.

BALLOOLY, Co. Down.

OS 27/28

Two cists containing urns and cremated bones were found, c. 1820, in a cairn; the urns were

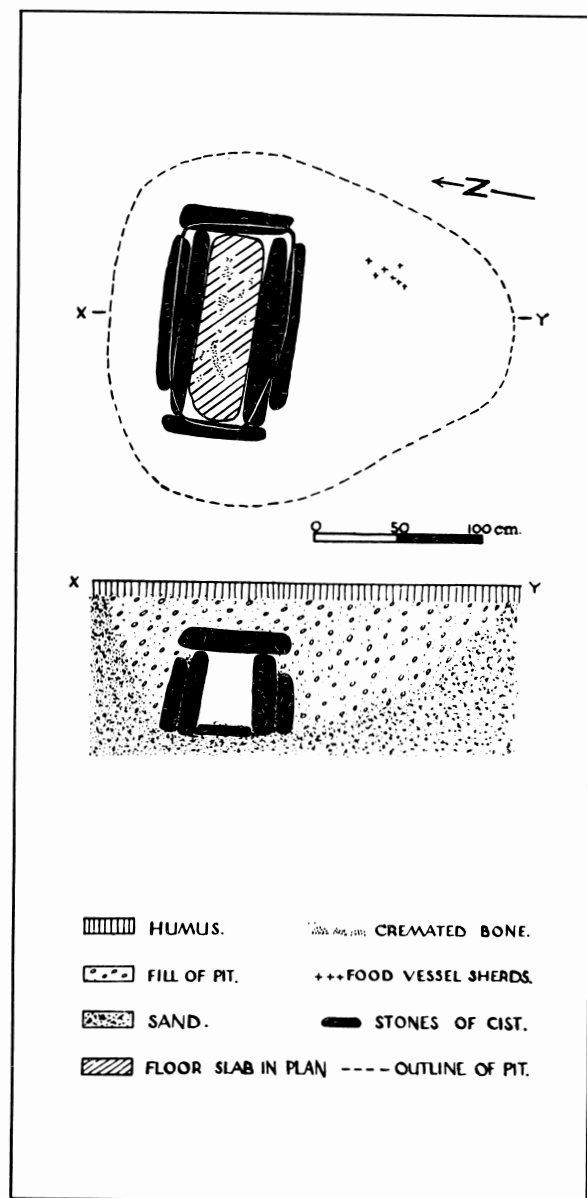


Fig. 36. Lossett, Co. Donegal
(after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

placed on flags and 'defended on all sides by perpendicular stones, and a large one on top'; one urn measured about 30cm in diameter, the other was about half the size. Atkinson, *Ireland exhibited to England in a political and moral Survey of her Population* (1823), Vol. 1, 308. Dubourdieu, *Statistical Survey of the County of Down* (1802), 305.

BALLYDRAIN, Co. Down.

OS 11

'Near the old castle, a number of earthen sepulchral urns were found'. O'Laverty 1, 367.

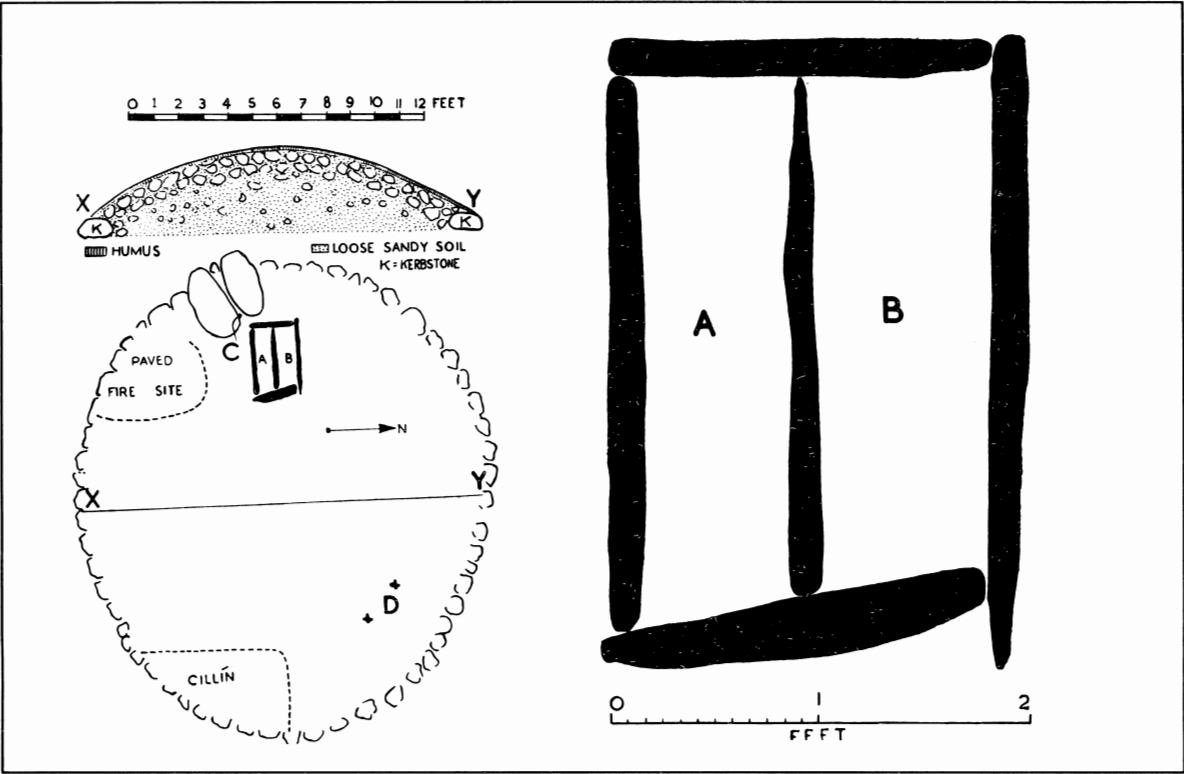


Fig. 37. Loughfad, Co. Donegal (after J. Raftery).

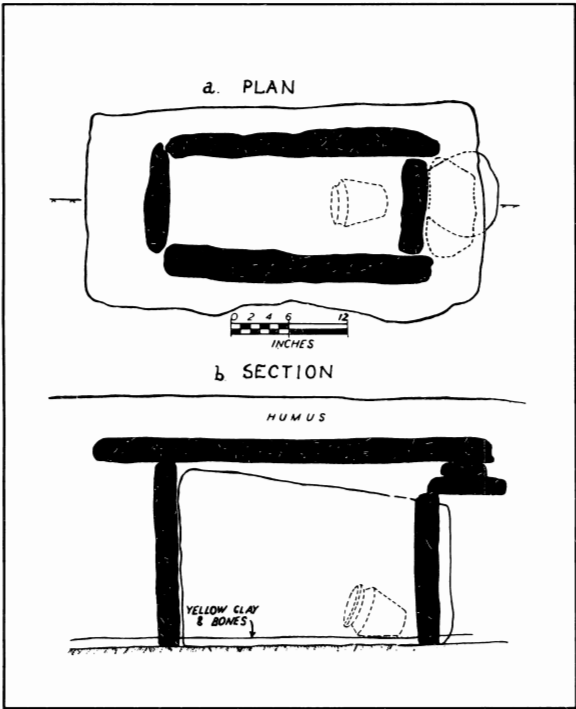


Fig. 38. Mullagheep, Co. Donegal (after J. Raftery).

BALLYHANWOOD, Co. Down. OS 5/10
A biconical cup (Kavanagh 15) found with cremated bone. *ASCD* 60.

BALLYKINLER UPPER, Co. Down. OS 44
The top of a little hill was 'surrounded by a trench' and within the enclosed space 'several small graves about three feet in length and ten inches in width and depth were found ... the cavities were lined and covered with thin stones, and contained human remains' ... and charcoal. O'Lavery 1, 125.

BALLYNAGROSS, Co. Down. OS 38
Short rectangular cist, about 81cm by 46cm, paved floor, long axis NW-SE; bowl accompanied cremated bones of an adult male. Flint flake found beside the bones and a flint core outside the cist. The bowl stood mouth upward in the eastern corner. *Ant. Jour.* 15 (1935), 170. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 141.

BALLYNAHATTY, Co. Down. OS 9
Cemetery mound contained several short stone coffins holding earthen urns and bones. In the same field similar coffins subsequently found, in

most cases containing urns. Stone arrowheads were found in one urn and stone battle axes in two others. *UJA* 3 (1855), 64. Borlase, *Dolmens of Ireland* (1897), Vol. 1, 280. O'Laverty II, 232. Herity, *Irish Passage Graves* (1974), 227. Longworth (1984), no. 2222.

BALLYRAINEY, Co. Down. OS 5/10
Flat cemetery: 'four urns discovered, maybe several more ... some mouth upward, some mouth downwards ...'; two cordoned urns (Kavanagh 22 and 64) survive. *ASCD* 62.

BALLYVESTER, Co. Down. OS 2/6
A cist contained a cremation and a vase, some cremated bone was apparently in the vessel. *ASCD* 60.

BALLYWILLIAM, Co. Down. OS 2
A short rectangular cist contained a cremation, a flint knife and four pottery vessels which were reported to have stood mouth upwards one in each corner of the grave; three vases are preserved. *JRSAI* 37 (1907), 310. *ASCD* 59.

BELMONT, Co. Down. OS 4
Two urn burials were found in 1895 near Campbell College, Belmont, Belfast: 1: large urn about 28cm high, cord ornament. 2: smaller vessel about 10cm from no. 1, it was about 13cm high. A biconical cup (Kavanagh 16) was found mouth upwards resting on the contents of this vessel. Both pots were filled with 'broken up' bones. Nearby 'about 20 small graves were noticed; they were about 2ft long by 1ft wide; they were excavated in the hard gravel and were filled with gravel and soil, containing a few fragments of bone and charcoal'. *UJA* 2 (1896), 184; 32 (1969), 65.

BONECASTLE, Co. Down. OS 37
Collared-cordoned urn hybrid (a collared urn according to Kavanagh, 27 and Longworth 1984, no. 2223) 'found in a cist'. *ASCD* 61.

CARRICKINAB, Co. Down. Fig. 39. OS 44
Short rectangular cist, long axis N-S, paved floor; contained cremated bones of one adult male, a bowl, a bronze dagger, a copper or bronze awl and two thumb-scrapers. *UJA* 31 (1968), 16.

CASTLEMAHON, Co. Down. Fig. 40. OS 38
Small irregular cist found in a stone circle; the cist

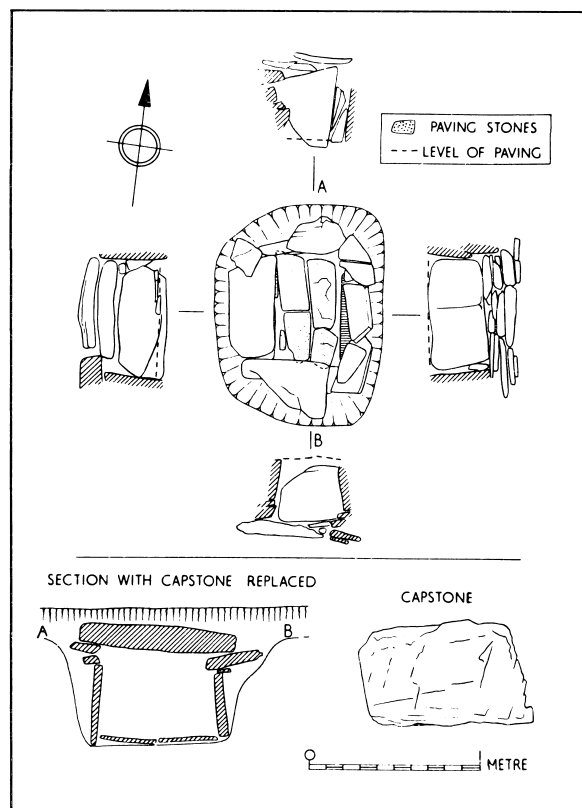


Fig. 39. Carrickinab, Co. Down
(after Collins and Evans).

contained cremated bones of a child and a plano-convex flint knife. *UJA* 19 (1956), 1.

CLOGHSKELT, Co. Down. Fig. 41. OS 35
A large flat cemetery of 23 graves excavated in 1973. Two finds are noted in *ASCD*. 61. Vase Tradition pottery. *Excavations 1973. IARF* 3 (1976), 7.

COMBER, Co. Down. OS 10
A cist contained cremated bones and sherds of at least two encrusted urns (Kavanagh 27-28). *INJ* 7 (1938-41), 184.

DEEHOMED, Co. Down. OS 35
A bowl possibly from a cist in a cairn. *ASCD* 83.

DROMARA, Co. Down. OS 28
A biconical accessory cup (Kavanagh 17) is stated to have been found in 'a large urn' in the parish of Dromara; the cup is recorded as having contained an amber bead. It was originally in the collection of A. C. Walsh of Dromore, later in the collection of George Petrie, it is now in the National Museum of

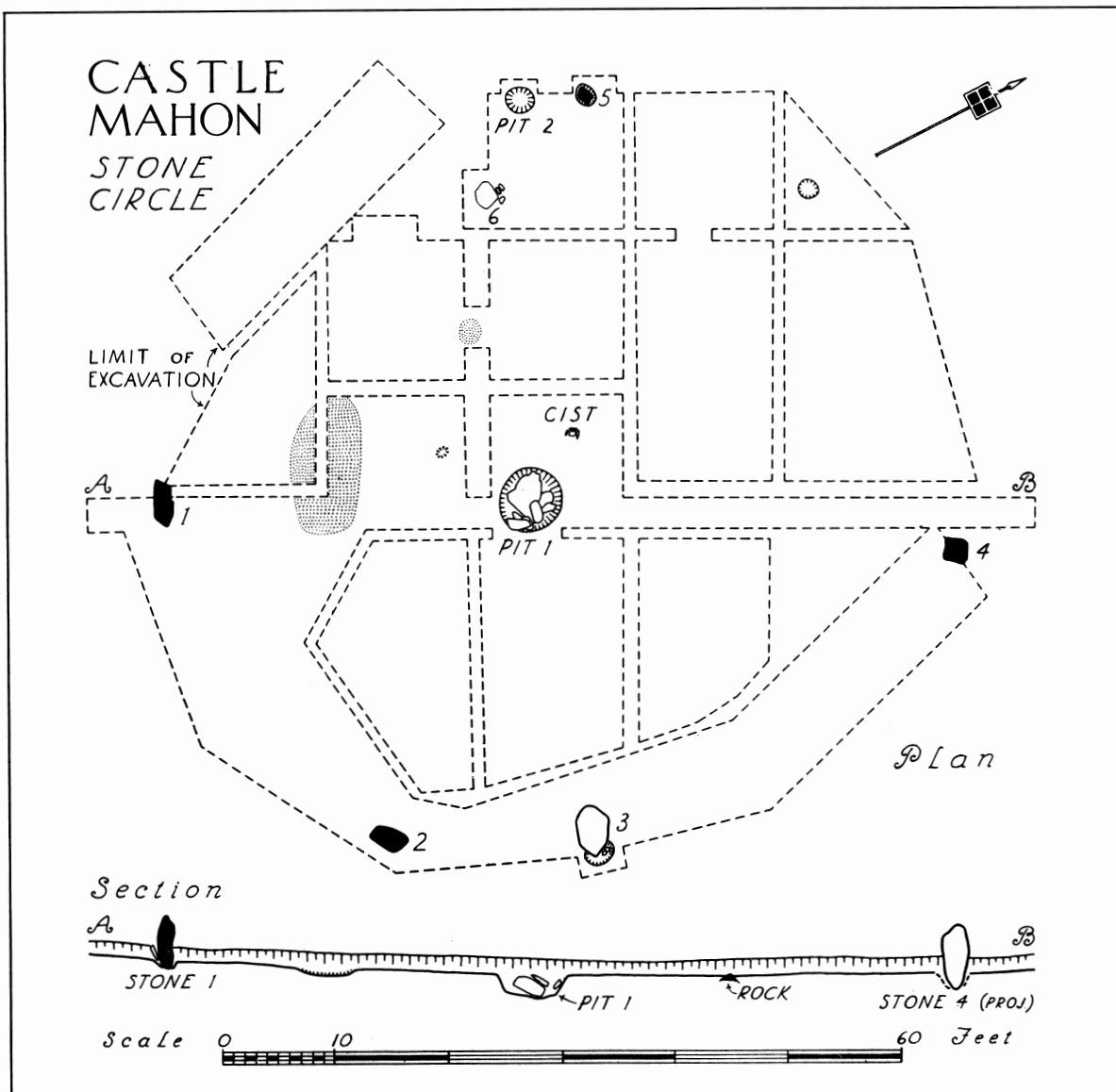


Fig. 40. Castle Mahon, Co. Down (after Collins).

Ireland (Wk. 60). A vase urn (Wk. 142) with no recorded provenance was, according to the Register of the National Museum, found with cremated bones and 'a ball, or a bead of amber', which was still preserved with the urn when Wakeman compiled his catalogue of the Museum collection in 1894; the 'bead' cannot now be located. The urn came from the Petrie collection, but, unfortunately, nothing certain is known of the circumstances of its discovery; it might conceivably be the lost 'large urn' from Dromara. *Catalogue of the Belfast Exhibition* (1852), 51. BAP II, fig. 567 (urn), fig. 352 (cup). ASCD 61, fig. 24 (cup).

DRUMBRONETH or LURGANBANE, near Dromore, Co. Down.

OS 20/21

A letter from A. C. Walsh of Dromore to Dean Dawson, dated April 23rd., 1839, gives a brief account of 'Three Urns which were turned up by some labourers in a field on the opposite side of the river from the Mount of Dromore, each were discovered in a cavity of a rock excavated for the purpose, one of them was encircled with stones of an oblong form standing on their end and covered at top with a large flat stone or flag, they lay right angles about one yard distant from each other. Unfortunately all was destroyed by the workmen, the

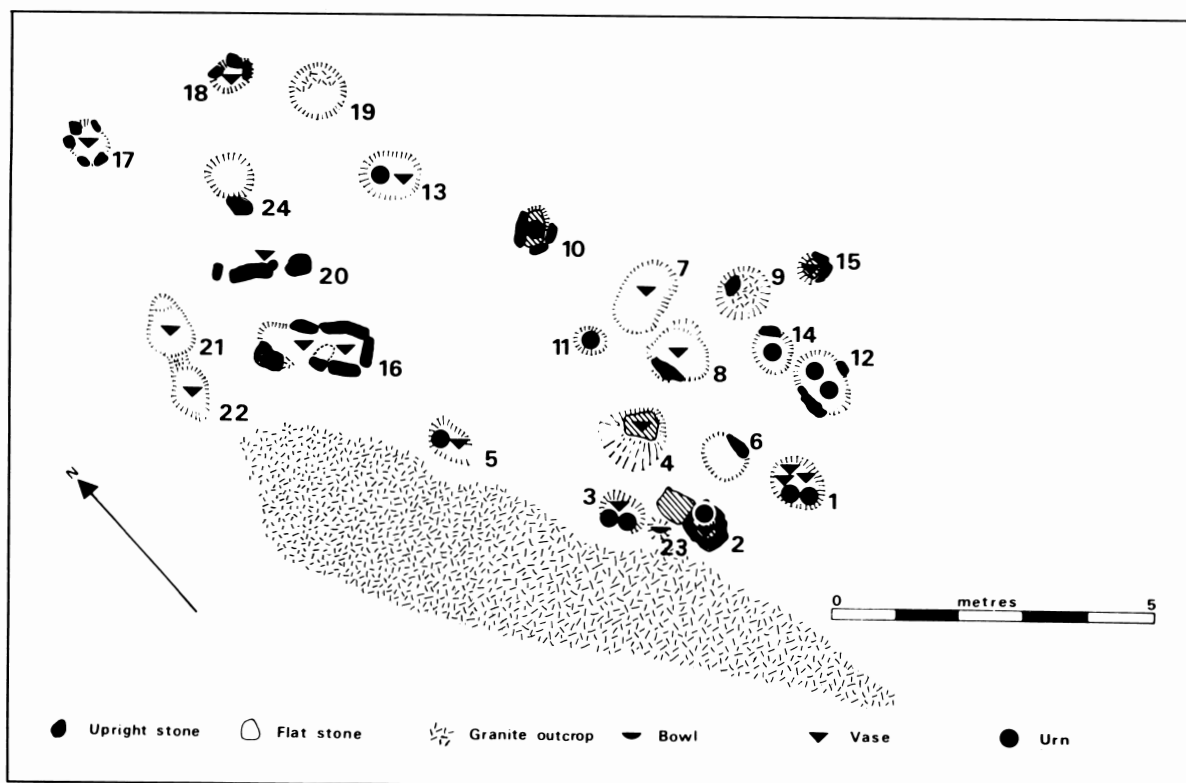


Fig. 41. Cloghselt, Co. Down (after Flanagan).

first accidentally, the second was partially but broken into pieces afterwards supposing from the bones that some person had clandestinely buried some infants in them, the third might have been saved but ignorance and carelessness prevailed, it was two days after before I heard of the circumstance, but I was too late to procure anything except one or two fragments'. (Dawson Letters no 48. Information from Mrs. Winifred Glover).

DRUMCAW, Co. Down.

OS 43

A vase is recorded from a cist in a cairn; the cist measured 91 by 53cm. A second cist and pottery vessel are also recorded. *ASCD* 60, 83.

DUNDRUM, Co. Down.

OS 44

1-2. Two short rectangular cists each contained cremated bones. One was destroyed, the other measured 48cm by 30cm by 43cm deep. 3. Short rectangular cist 38cm by 35cm contained cremated bone; eccentrically situated in a ring-ditch. *UJA* 15 (1952), 9.

Near DUNDRUM, Co. Down.

OS 44

Flat cemetery found c. 1858: two short rectangular

cists were found each 'containing human bones ... In the same cutting at a depth of three feet, was found ten cinerary urns ... standing three feet apart, and all but one turned bottom upwards, resting upon flags, and containing charred human bones ... they all fell to pieces except two'. One contained 'a ring made of shale' (a bead?). A cordoned urn, possibly from this site, is preserved (Kavanagh 66-'no locality'). *UJA* 6 (1858), 164.

DUNEIGHT, Co. Down.

OS 14

Sherds of collared urn (Longworth 1984, no. 2225) found with disturbed cremated burial; two flints also found. *UJA* 26 (1963), 57.

GREENGRAVES, Co. Down.

OS 5

A bowl and five (?) other 'urns' found on removing stones in a field: a cemetery? *UJA* 1 (1895), 255.

Near HILLSBOROUGH, Co. Down.

OS 14

A small cordoned urn (Kavanagh 23) found containing cremated bones in a cist. *UJA* 1 (1938), 192; 32 (1969), 65.

KILBRONEY, Co. Down.

OS 51

'In 1834 a spacious cave was discovered containing broken urns filled with calcined human bones and ashes'. Bronze Age? Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 26.

KILLINCHY, Co. Down.

OS 17

Cordoned urn found inverted in a pit (Kavanagh 24); it contained cremated bones and 'a curiously curved bone needle with eyelet at one end' (lost). A vase urn was found nearby. *PBNHPS* (1894-5), 44. *ASCD* 62.

KNOCK, BELFAST, Co. Down.

OS 4/5

A vase urn found inverted and containing cremated bones: no mention of a cist; a flint flake was found with the bones. *PBNHPS* (1894-5), 44. *ASCD* 61.

KNOCKINELDER, Co. Down.

OS 32

A flat bronze axehead is said to have been found in 1868 in a 'large stone coffin (cist) together with human bones' and several arrowheads. Only the axehead is preserved. *UJA* 42 (1979), 85.

KNOCKIVEAGH, Edenagarry, Co. Down.

OS 41

A secondary burial in a Neolithic cairn consisted of the cremated bones of two individuals (an adult and a child) and a bowl. *UJA* 20 (1957), 8.

LOUGHBRICKLAND, Co. Down.

OS 34

It is reported in one version of the minutes of the meeting of the 29th of June 1685 of the Dublin Philosophical Society: 'Mr Smyth also affirmed that near Loughbrickland in the same county, upon removing a heap of stones to repair a bridge, the entrance of a cave was discovered, in a large room of which was a building of stone containing 2 great urns. These, by the eagerness of the searchers (who supposed to hold money) were instantly broken'. Bronze Age? Bodleian Library, ms Ashmole 1813, f. 353. (Information from K. T. Hoppen).

MAGHERALIN, Co. Down.

OS 13

Small cup found inside a larger urn (lost). *ASCD* 60.

MAYO, Co. Down.

OS 47/51

The discovery of an urn and cremated bones in a cist in a cairn in July 1826 is recorded. No precise details. Also noted is the discovery, in December

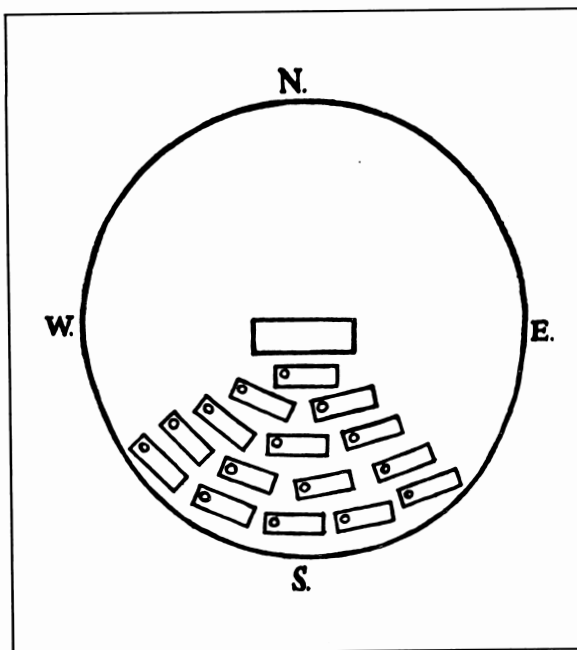


Fig. 42. Mount Stewart, Co. Down (after Templeton).

1827, of 'six ancient urns ... each containing a quantity of cremated bones'; one of them also contained what was evidently an accessory cup. *Dublin Penny Journal* Vol. IV (1835), 98. *JRSAI*, 100 (1970), 115.

MAZE, Co. Down.

OS 14

Collared urn (Kavanagh 30; Longworth 1984, no. 2227) from 'a small mound'; possibly found with a biconical cup (Kavanagh 19). *ASCD* 61.

MOUNT STEWART, Co. Down.

Fig. 42. OS 11

This cemetery mound was investigated c. 1786 and few details survive. The cairn had a notably low-land situation, and was about 2m high and may have been 19m or more in diameter. In the centre a large rectangular cist 1.72m by 68cm internally was found to be empty. Fifteen other small rectangular cists were reportedly found in the southern portion of the mound, one of them measured about 1.6m by 46cm internally. Each small cist contained a pottery vessel placed at its western end, accompanied by cremated bones and charcoal. Six vessels survive, one vase and five bowls. *PPS* 3 (1937), 29. *ASCD* 59, 85.

MOYAD, Co. Down.

OS 48

One of a number of cists (in a cairn) was destroyed in 1935: it contained a cremation. *ASCD* 85.

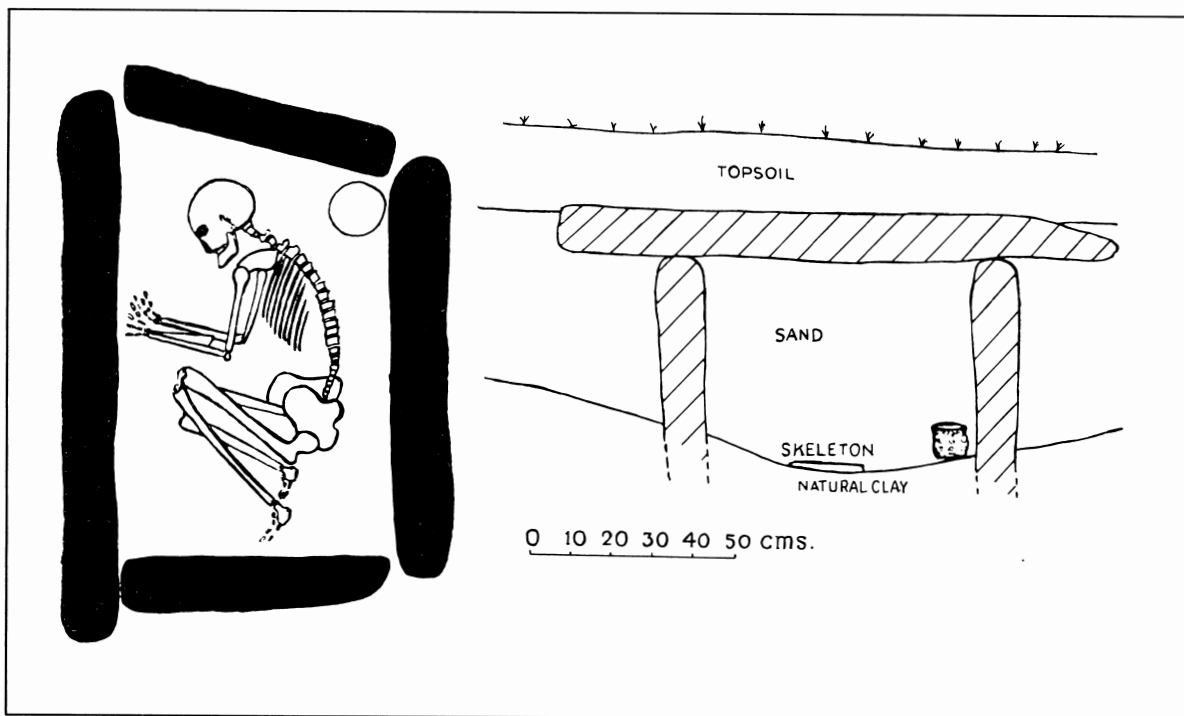


Fig. 43. Aghfarrell, Co. Dublin (after J. Raftery).

MULLAGHMORE, Co. Down.

OS 47/51

An urn, found in a cairn called Mullaghmore Cairn 'contained several calcined bones and a small vessel ...' *Dublin Penny Journal*, Vol. IV (1835), 97. *UJA* 19 (1956), 17.

NEWRY, Co. Down.

OS 46/50

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 31) found with cremated bones and a biconical cup (Kavanagh 18). *ASCD* 61.

PORTAFERRY, Co. Down.

OS 32

A biconical cup (Kavanagh 21) from a gravel pit contained burnt bones; eight other vessels of different form uncovered – a flat cemetery? *ASCD* 61.

PRIEST TOWN, Co. Down.

OS 24

Vase urn inverted on a stone slab in a pit; the urn contained the cremated bones of one individual, probably a male. *ASCD* 61.

RUBANE, Co. Down.

OS 18

Short rectangular cist with massive capstone, 69cm by 38cm internally. Two cup marks reported on inner surface of south wall slab. Contained a bowl, no bones noted. *PBNHPS* (1925–6), 71. *Ant. Jour.* 12 (1932), 299. *ASCD* 59.

TAMARY, Co. Down.

OS 47

Two round cairns each contained empty cists. *ASCD* 86.

TOLLYMORE PARK, Co. Down.

OS 49

A large cist in cairn, opened c. 1905, contained bones and pottery vessel. *ASCD* 86.

AGHFARRELL, Co. Dublin.

Fig. 43. OS 24

1. Short rectangular cist, 94 by 66 by 51cm deep, orientation not recorded; contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male, with a bowl behind the skull. 2. Six metres to the N of the cist a vase urn was found inverted in a pit and contained some cremated bones representing a small adult. *JRSAI* 68 (1938), 300.

BALLEALLY, Co. Dublin.

OS 8

Two vase urns were recovered in fragments from a sand pit; some cremated bone was found with one of the pieces. *NMI*.

BALLINASCORNEY LOWER, Co. Dublin.

OS 24

A rectangular slab-built cist containing a crouched skeleton was found in 1930. A small pot (a bowl?) stood near the head. All destroyed. *NMI*.

BALLSBRIDGE, Co. Dublin.

OS 18

A pit grave contained the crouched skeleton of a female (on left side, head to NE); a bowl was found in front of the skeleton. Martin, *Prehistoric Man in Ireland* (1935), 95.

BEAU, Co. Dublin.

OS 8

A small cist 58cm by 38cm internally contained a 10cm thick deposit of mostly clean cremated bone. A plano-convex flint knife and three flint flakes were also found in the cist. The bones represented at least six individuals: four adults and two children. *Dublin Historical Record* 33 (1979–80), 68.

CALLIAGHSTOWN, Co. Dublin.

OS 7

In 1782, Austin Cooper reported 'when my grandfather was making a quarry and building a lime kiln at Calliaghstown, it was necessary to remove a small round Mount then on the spot ... under it was a beautiful clay urn with an elegant beaded rim round it, containing calcined bones, which mouldered away as soon as exposed to the air. My father at the time wrote an account of it for the present Dr Lydon of this City'. Price, *An Eighteenth Century Antiquary. The Sketches, Notes and Diaries of Austin Cooper* (1759–1830), (1942), 109.

CHAPELIZOD, Co. Dublin.

OS 18

A large tumulus in the Phoenix Park covered 'some urns' and a centrally placed megalithic grave containing two male skeletons, possibly crouched, shell necklaces, a flint, and a bone toggle. Four small stone cists were also found each containing cremated bones and a small pottery vessel: three pots are preserved. Another small cist was found in the Phoenix Park c. 1840 and is described as of 'a domed shape, and constructed of small stones'; it contained the skeletal remains of an adult male apparently disarticulated. Wilde (1857), 180. *PRIA* 1 (1836–40), 186; 20 (1896–8), 574. Herity and Eogan, *Ireland in Prehistory* (1977), 84.

'CONQUER HILL', CLONTARF, Co. Dublin.

OS 18/19

Of the tumuli recorded in the vicinity of Clontarf, one near 'Conquer Hill' produced 'a Celtic sepulchral urn ... and a bronze sword, and other relics of the same material'. A sketch of this mound was made by Wakeman in 1888 (RIA ms 12 T 12). Cooke, *Wakeman's Handbook of Irish Antiquities* (1903), 121.

COURTLOUGH, Co. Dublin.

OS 5

Short rectangular cist approx. 92cm by 46cm contained a bowl; no bones noted. About 60cm away a pit containing a cremation and another bowl was found. *JRSAI* 69 (1939), 117; 100 (1970), 115.

CRUAGH, Co. Dublin.

OS 25

Vase urn found in a cist c. 1927; the cist measured 122 by 91cm; no further details. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 115.

CRUMLIN, Co. Dublin.

OS 18/22

Bowl found with cremated bones in a sand quarry. NMI.

DEANSGRANGE, Co. Dublin.

OS 23

A short rectangular slab-built cist measured about 63cm by 40cm internally and 44cm deep, its long axis lay NW–SE, and it was roofed with a capstone. Fragments of the unburnt skeletons of two adult individuals, one male, were recovered. No further details. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 122; 100 (1970), 115.

DRIMNAGH, Co. Dublin.

OS 18

A tumulus covering a Neolithic grave also contained four secondary burials: 1. A rectangular pit, 1.80m by 90cm, long axis E–W, contained a bowl and the scattered cremation of one adult; the bowl had been placed mouth upwards on a small pile of burnt bone near the centre of the grave. 2. Collared urn–cordoned urn hybrid (listed as a collared urn by Kavanagh, 33 and Longworth 1984, no. 2229) placed on the apex of the primary mound and covered with a mantle of clay. The urn was inverted and contained the cremated bones of an adult male. 3. Two unburnt, decayed, burials found in a pit in the secondary mantling. *JRSAI* 69 (1939), 190.

DUBLIN, Co. Dublin.

OS 18

In May 1857 two copper axeheads were found opposite No. 3 Suffolk Street. At the same time, a burial, variously described as 'a clay urn full of bone' and 'a cist-tomb containing besides a skeleton, a funerary urn containing bones', was found under No. 2. NMI. Little, *Dublin before the Vikings* (1957), 129.

EDMONDSTOWN, Co. Dublin.

Fig. 44.

OS 22

A flat cemetery of some 18 burials was uncovered in 1950–51 on an esker 400 feet above OD: Cist 1:

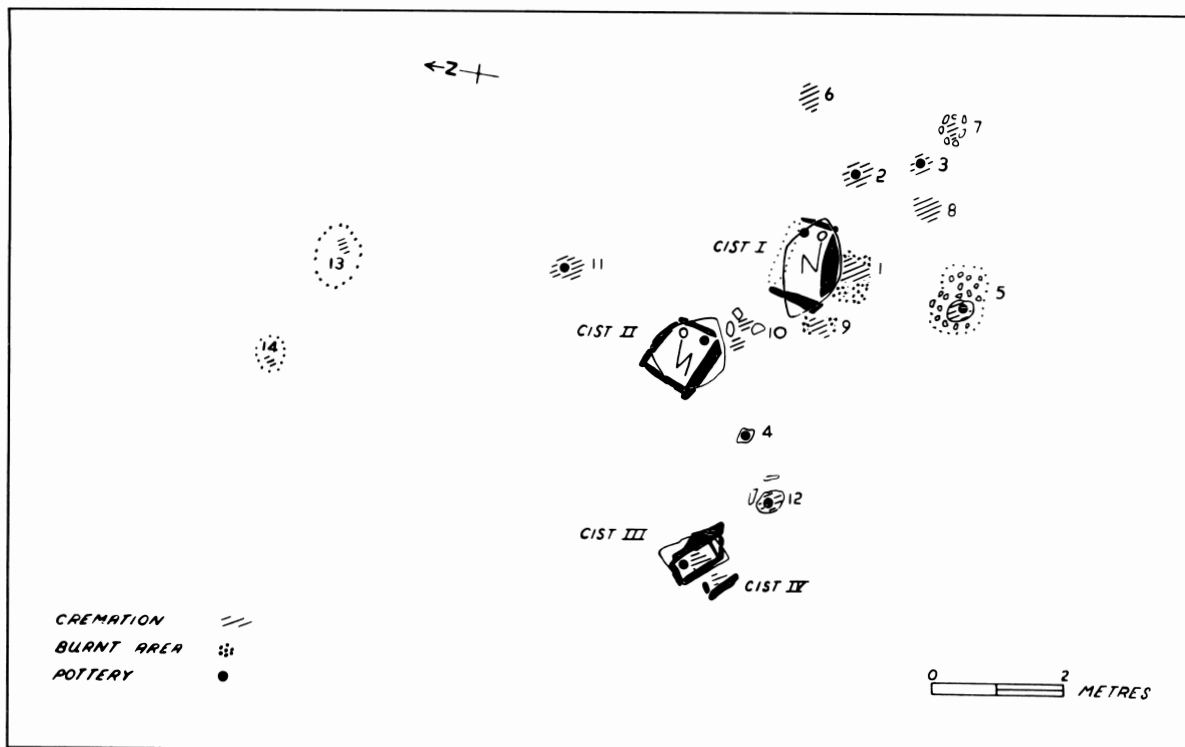


Fig. 44. Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (from the records of the National Museum of Ireland: after Hartnett).

short rectangular cist, long axis E-W; crouched skeleton of a 12-15 year old, on right side, head to E, facing N; bowl (mouth upwards?) in front of face. Cist II: short rectangular cist about 1m WNW of I, long axis E-W; crouched skeleton of a 14-16 year old on left side, head to E, facing S; bowl mouth upwards in front of face. A number of unburnt phalanges were found on top of the soil filling of the cist and cremated and unburnt bones occurred throughout the filling. Cist III: short rectangular cist to W of II, long axis NW-SE, there were two end slabs at the SE end with a small cavity between them; contained the cremated bones of a youth; a bowl lay in NE corner, its mouth tilted towards the S. Some cremated bones and a flint scraper were found outside the cist but under the tail of the capstone. Cist IV: short rectangular, shared the W side stone of Cist III, had no capstone or SE end stone, long axis NW-SE. Contained cremated bones of an adult.

The majority of the other burials lay S and SE of the cists:

1. Scattered cremated bones of an adult in dark soil and charcoal covering the S half of the capstone of Cist I. Six urn sherds found in this area which had been disturbed. 2. Scattered cremation of young

adult, 1m SE of Cist I; disturbed. Sherds found of an accessory cup (Kavanagh 23) – see Burial 6, an anomalous urn (a collared urn according to Longworth 1984, no. 2231), an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 33) and some unclassifiable pottery; three stone beads also found. 3. Sherds of an urn found with a pocket of cremated bone c. 8m E of no. 4. 4. Basal portion of an urn found badly squashed (pottery from nos. 3 and 4 from same vessel). 5. A rectangular setting of stones measuring 1m E-W and 65cm N-S enclosed an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 34) which rested on a lozenge shaped stone bearing 'a scatter of pock marks' on its upper surface. The urn contained cremated bones and a plano-convex flint knife; a calcined bone tube and a spatulate bone object were also found (Kavanagh, fig. 1, c, d, g). 6. A concentration of finely cremated bone in an area 40 by 25cm. Sherds of accessory cup (Kavanagh 24), some representing part of the cup found in Burial 2, and a flint ball found. 7. A circular setting of small stones enclosed an area 40-50cm in diameter in which was a cremation. 8. Small pocket of cremated bone, quartz pebble also found. 9. 'Much charcoal and cremated bone' at SW corner of Cist I. 10. Cremation of a youth in a patch of dark soil

partly covering capstone of Cist II. 11. Collared urn burial (Kavanagh 34; Longworth 1984, no. 2230) apparently cremation in a pit; disturbed, position of urn not recorded. 12. Encrusted urn near Cist IV, the urn (Kavanagh 35) had been placed mouth upwards in a pit, protected by stones some of which were considered to have been removed from Cist IV. The urn contained some pieces of quartz and cremated bone. 13. A few scraps of cremated bone in an oval area of heavy clay 6m N of Cist I. Finds included 2 urn sherds, a neolithic (?) sherd, some flints. 14. Small patch of black soil and charcoal containing a few scraps of cremated bone and some flint chips. Unpublished. NMI. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 116.

GLASSAMUCKY, Co. Dublin.

OS 24/25

A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton lying on its left side, head to north-north-west. A vase stood mouth upwards behind the skull. A vase urn and cremation were found 5m away. NMI.

GREENHILLS, Co. Dublin.

OS 22

A flat cemetery on a sand-ridge may have contained at least five burials. Various graves and pottery fragments were recovered in the course of gravel-digging from approximately 1892 to 1898: 1. A sub-rectangular, slab-built, cist measured approximately 53cm by 44cm, and 48cm in depth; its long axis lay E-W. An encrusted urn (Kavanagh 37) lay inverted on the paved floor, it contained cremated bones and a miniature vase (Kavanagh 25), a vase stood mouth upwards beside the urn. 2. About 1.20m north-west of the cist, an unprotected pit was found containing an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 36) which may have been associated with a plain vase urn, and possibly with a third vessel – three small sherds of a bowl were reportedly mixed with the rescued sherds, no bones were noted but few details recorded. 3. Some 6m west of the cist, the skeleton of a man was found apparently in a pit grave: 'the position of the skeleton was north and south, the head towards the north'. At the feet of the skeleton was found a bowl containing cremated bones. 4. Some 15m to the north of the cist a vase urn was found containing cremated bones, it was inverted on a flat slab perhaps protected by a rough cist: 'for some distance round the urn a rough wall of large stones had been built ... and the space inside and over the urn was filled with small stones, about the size of walnuts'. In the

urn was also found a smaller pottery vessel. 5. A large vase or vase urn was found containing cremated bones, it was inverted on a flagstone, presumably in a pit, and protected by 'a few more flagstones placed around it, but no covering stone'. Among the cremated bones was portion of a perforated bone pin. A bowl and a vase preserved from this site (or its vicinity) presumably indicate other burials. *BAP* 1, fig. 299. *PRIA* 18 (1891-93), 400; 21 (1898-1900), 338; 28 (1910), 106.

HOLLYWOOD, Co. Dublin

OS 4

'On levelling a hill near the ruins of the old parish church, in 1833, several urns containing ashes were found, about six feet below the surface'. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 669.

JAMESTOWN, Co. Dublin.

OS 26

A number of burials found in a sand quarry since c. 1908; a flat cemetery?: 1. Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 38), no details of discovery known. 2. A vase found with cremated bones. 3. A bowl found in a cist with capstone and paved floor along with unburnt human bones. Other unburnt bones found in 1929. NMI. *Ant. Jour.* 8 (1928), 355. *JRSAI* 62 (1932), 89; 100 (1970), 116.

KILLINEY, Co. Dublin.

OS 23/26

A tumulus containing cists was opened in 1787. Lewis refers to the discovery c. 1784 of stone coffins and urns of baked clay. King, *Monumenta Antiqua* (London 1799), 247 (reference from M. Herity). Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 114.

KILMASHOGUE, Co. Dublin.

Fig. 45. OS 25

Wedge tomb with three secondary cists: 1. Short rectangular 109 by 61cm by 56cm deep, contained a bowl: no bones found. 2. Short rectangular, 56cm by 46cm, disturbed, contained remains of a bowl and a cremation. 3. Polygonal cist, with floor-slab, contained an inverted vase urn and cremated bones. *PRIA* 56 C (1953-4), 465.

KILTALOWN, Co. Dublin.

OS 24

Bowl and skeletal remains found in a cist under a low mound. Nearby a number of small 'chamber tombs' without covering stones were found. All previously opened but fragments of burnt bone discovered in several. A large stone lined pit containing cremated bones was also found, the rim

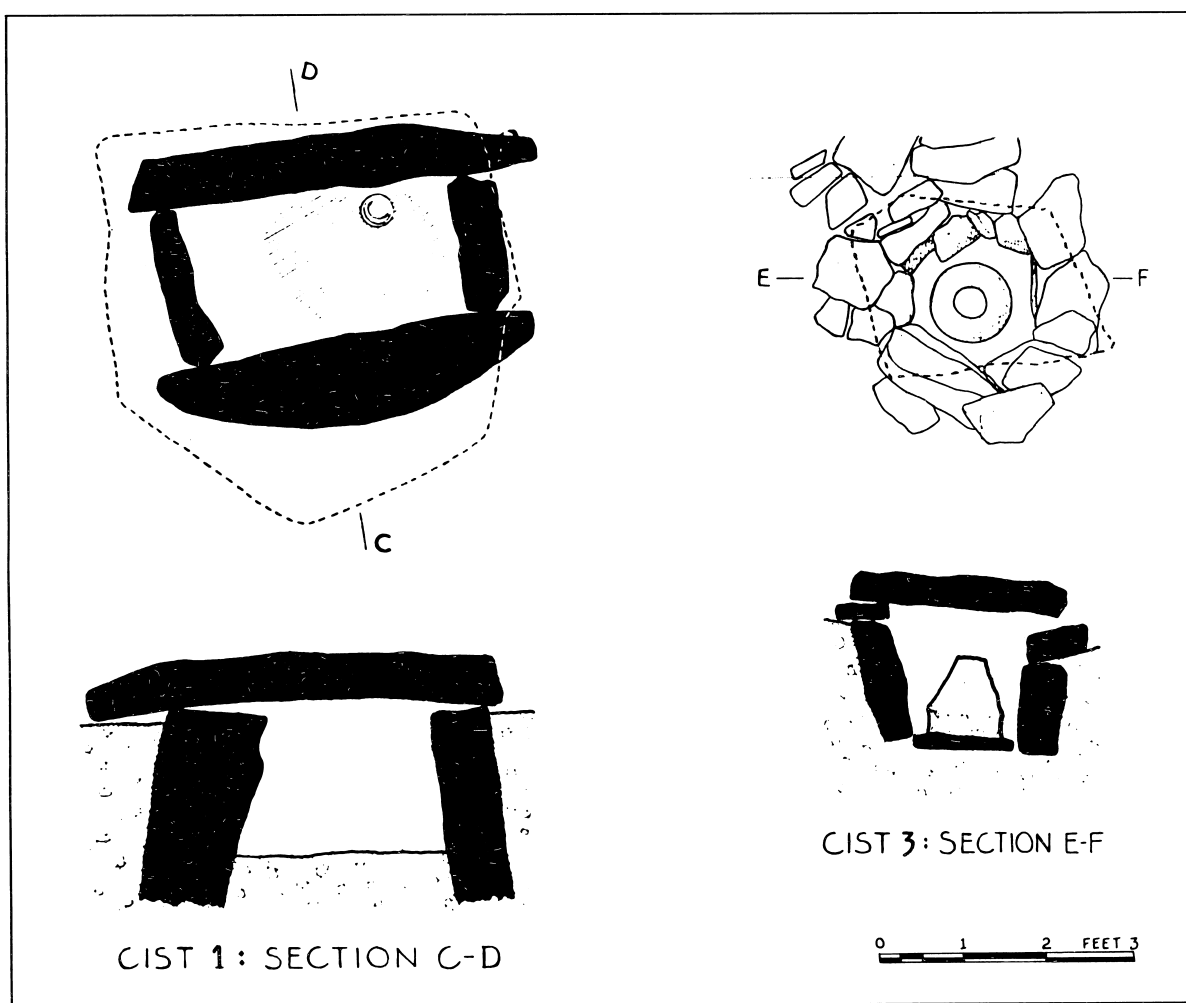


Fig. 45. Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin (after Kilbride-Jones).

sherd of an urn was recovered nearby (NMI Wk. 94, not located). A flat cemetery? *PRIA* 4 (1847–50), 187. *BAP* 1, 300.

OLDTOWN, Co. Dublin.

OS 11/15 (?)

Vase urn found in a 'rath', inverted and containing cremated bones and part of a flat, triangular bronze dagger. NMI.

PALMERSTOWN, Co. Dublin.

OS 17

Two Bronze Age burials were discovered in the course of gravel digging in 1868; a fall of earth revealed two graves each containing an urn: 'when the labourers found these vessels contained only bones, they amused themselves by throwing stones at them and breaking them into fragments'. 1. Vase urn found inverted in what may have been a short cist: 'it lay deposited in a rude quadrilateral

excavation ... and surrounded on three sides by flat slabs'; this grave was roofed by three capstones and the urn was inverted on a floor slab and contained what was apparently cremated human bone; fifteen fragments of animal bone, perhaps dog, and two pieces of shell, oyster and *Lutraria oblonga*, were also reportedly found in the urn. 2. Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 39) inverted in a pit; it too apparently contained cremated bones. Fragments of a smaller vessel about 16cm high were recovered with this urn and had apparently been deposited with it. This burial was found about 1.50m from the other. *PRIA* 10 (1866–69), 336.

RUSH, Co. Dublin.

OS 8

A short rectangular cist found at the N edge of a passage tomb cairn. The cist measured 76 by 38cm and contained a bowl and the skeletal remains of a

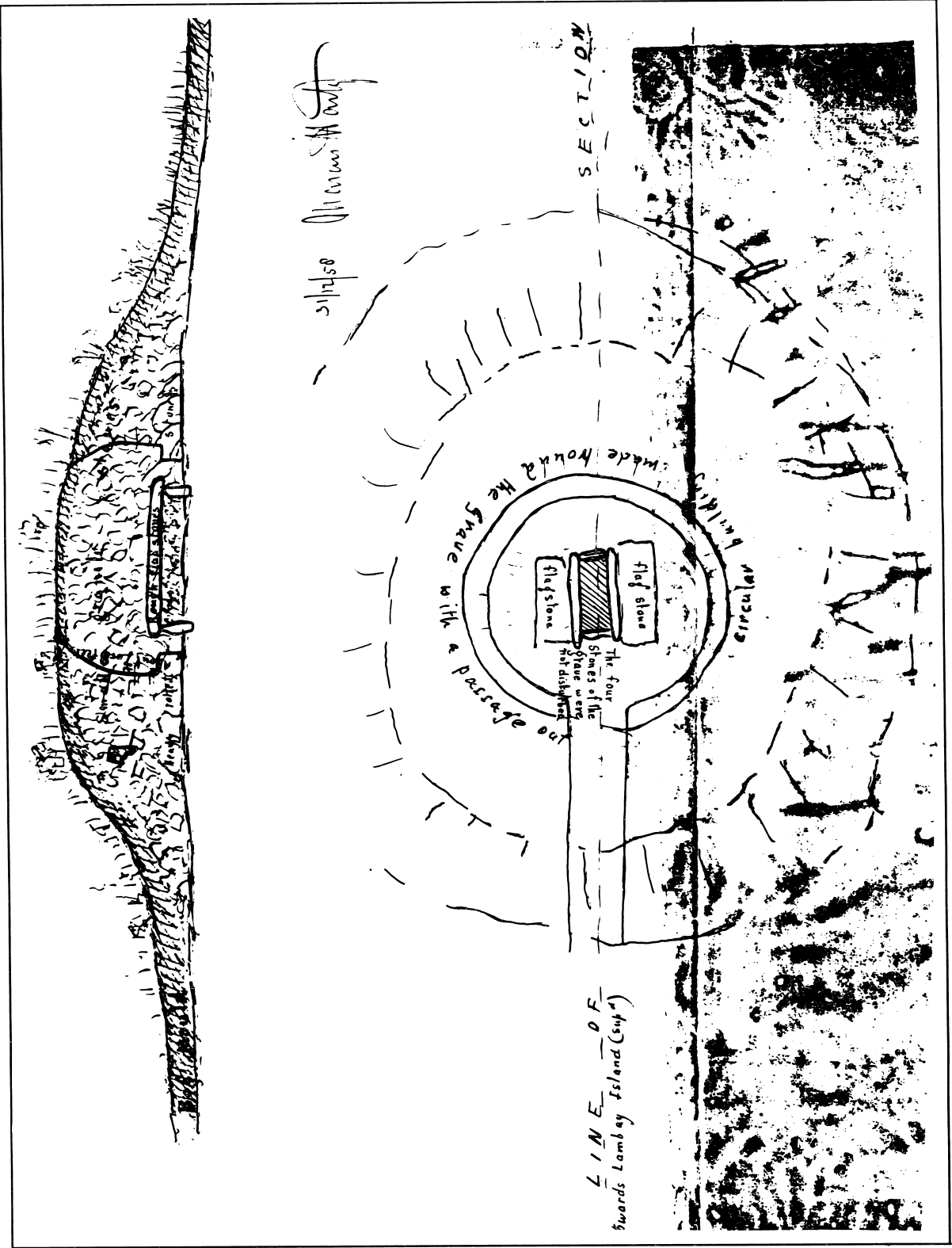


Fig. 46. Tibbradden, Co. Dublin (after a drawing in the Royal Irish Academy).

child. At least two other burials reported. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 164; 100 (1970), 116.

STILLORGAN, Co. Dublin.

OS 23

A slab-built cist, which measured 61cm by 38cm and 36cm deep, contained the 'promiscuously dispersed' bones of an adult and a pottery vessel, presumably a bowl. From the size of the cist it was concluded that the bones must have been 'divested of all their flesh' before burial. The discovery of 'some urns of baked clay containing ashes and burnt bones' is also recorded. A disturbed cist grave of approximately the same dimensions was found in this area in 1955. It measured approx. 70cm by 40cm, long axis N-S, and contained the disturbed remains of the skeleton of an adult female (death due to a blow on the skull), one oyster shell and a flint flake. The skull lay at the N end of the cist. Molyneux, in Boate, *A Natural History of Ireland* (1755), 201. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 532. *JRSAI* 1898, 21, note 3; 100 (1970), 116.

TIBBRADDER, Co. Dublin. Fig. 46.

OS 25

A circular cairn of granite stones covered a centrally placed rectangular cist built on the old ground surface. The cist measured about 91cm by 46cm by 30cm deep and contained cremated bones, charcoal and a bowl. An inverted urn (not preserved) was found in the body of the cairn. A sketch plan and section by Marcus Harty (dated December 31 1858) are preserved in the Royal Irish Academy. One if not both of two slabs shown on either side of the cist may have served as capstones. The plan also shows (in red ink) the 'circular building made round the grave' after its discovery. Harty's account is as follows: 'Original surface of mountain composed of granite rock covered with white decomposed granite without the slightest trace of bog mould or ashes of bog mould nor anything to show that it had in anyway been disturbed. Grave about 3ft 6in x 1ft 6in x 1ft 6in deep inside filled with charcoal of small wood and bones such as sample now in small urn, which was found broken in grave. A second crock in a very decayed state was found bottom up amongst the stones, it was of common shape and had no marks on it. The following note is from my pocket book – "Moat on Tibbradden Mountain, Co. Dublin. On Thursday June 14th 1849, I commenced to open the above moat on the top and in the centre. Monday 18th June Michael Mahon in excavating while I was in Dublin came

on a grave containing a small urn and bone ashes – 14th September I found the second urn". Mahon is gamekeeper on the mountain and helped to open the monument'. It is also stated on the sketch plan that 'the four stones of the grave were not disturbed' and that 'the red is a circular building made round the grave with a passage out'. In publishing Harty's plan in 1933, Farrington omitted the latter statement with the result that some later commentators believed the nineteenth-century circular structure to be a passage tomb. RIA ms 23 P 25. *PRIA* 7 (1857–61), 160. *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 252. *PPS* 23 (1957), 221. *Antiquity* 33 (1959), 283.

TICKNOCK, Co. Dublin.

OS 22/25

Vase urn apparently found in a pit, unprotected and inverted on a stone slab, contained cremated bones and 'several small fragments of another urn' also found. NMI.

WHITETOWN, Lusk, Co. Dublin.

OS 8

A skeleton, 'lying on its back', was protected by a few small stones around its head and a flat slab above. A bowl was found close to the skull. A 'band of ornamented substance' around the skull disintegrated when touched. NMI.

BEIHY, Co. Fermanagh. Fig. 47.

OS 32

A cemetery cairn contained seven or eight cists (including a large central one); one of the cists is described as of 'beehive form' and 107cm in diameter, two others were quadrangular. The cairn had been considerably disturbed, a number of cists contained some cremated bone and the base of a pottery vessel (7cm in diameter) was recovered from one. *JRSAI* 16 (1883–4), 169. *PSAMNI* 178.

CAVANCARRAGH, Co. Fermanagh. Fig. 48.

OS 22

A cemetery mound contained 'a number' of small cists: no central grave found. One cist was a double example covered by a single capstone, long axis E-W; W compartment: approx. 61cm by 38cm, E compartment: approx. 46cm by 41cm, each contained a pottery vessel (part of one bowl preserved in NMI). Another cist was long and rectangular, about 1.50m by 91cm, and contained cremated bone and a bowl or vase(?). *JRSAI* 12 (1872–3), 434; 13 (1874–5), 536; 14 (1876–8), 499.

CLOGHERBOG, Co. Fermanagh.

OS 20

A cist in a cairn contained a bowl, two other vessels

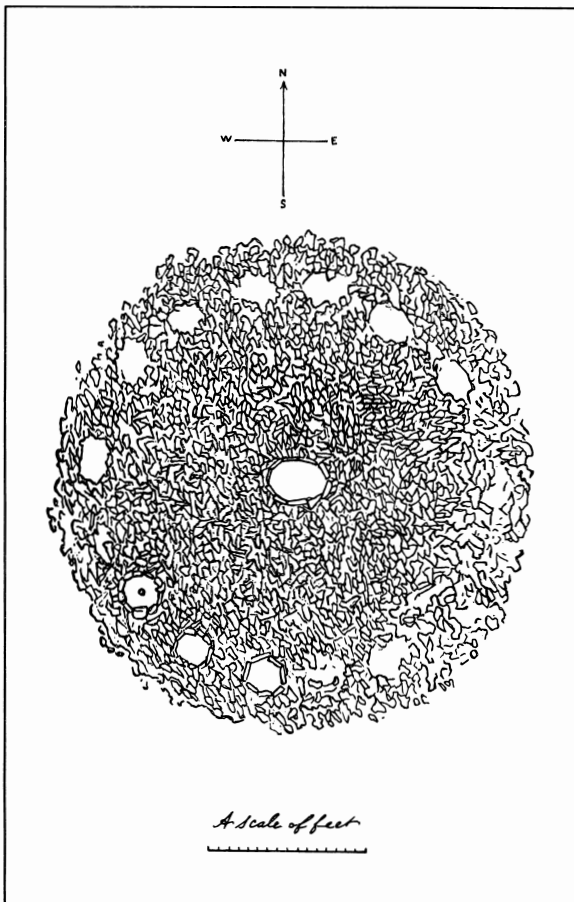


Fig. 47. Beihy, Co. Fermanagh (after Wakeman).

and cremated bones. *BAP* 1, 307. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 117.

CLOGHTOGLE, Co. Fermanagh. OS 23
 'Urns have been dug up in this neighbourhood containing human bones and ashes' (see under Ratoran, Co. Fermanagh): several urns were found in a small cairn in this area, near Laughascaul – a bowl is preserved. *JRSAI* 13 (1874–5), 535. *UJA* 32 (1969), 60.

COAGH, Co. Fermanagh. OS 21/22
 A mound contained a cist 'enclosing an urn full of calcined bones'. *JRSAI* 48 (1918), 151.

DOOHATTY GLEBE, Co. Fermanagh. OS 32
 A court tomb cairn, the remains of which were described as 'star-shaped', contained some 15 cists, traces of cremations were found in four. *JRSAI* 16 (1883–4), 165. *PSAMNI* 177. *PRIA* 60 C (1960), 121.

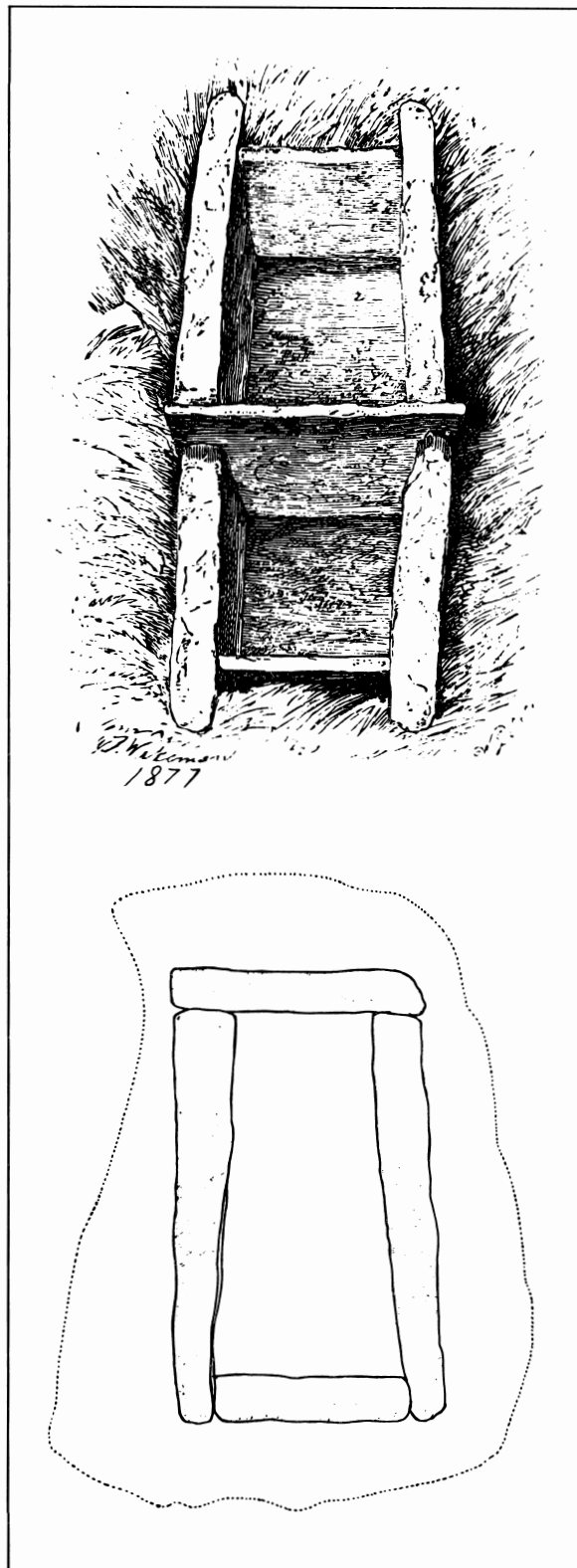


Fig. 48. Cavancarragh, Co. Fermanagh (after Wakeman).

Near ENNISKILLEN, Co. Fermanagh. OS 22
A vase, a vase urn, a flint knife and cremated bones probably came from the one burial: they were found in a sand-pit. No details are available other than (according to NMI records) the fact that the urn was inverted on a slab. *BAP* II 570. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63.

KILTIERNEY, Co. Fermanagh. OS 6
Excavation revealed that a stone circle had enclosed seven burials. At the approximate centre a spread of cremated bone contained three hammer pendants and sherds of Carrowkeel ware (Burial 1). Beneath this deposit, a cremation and several amber and stone beads were found in a pit (Burial 7). Other burials (2, 4–6) were cremations, one (4) associated with a few (? beaker) pot sherds. Burial 3, at the perimeter of the circle, consisted of a small amount of cremated bone covered by an inverted cordoned urn. *UJA* 40 (1977), 32.

MOYLEHID, Belmore Mt., Co. Fermanagh. OS 26
A secondary burial in the cairn of a passage tomb consisted of a rectangular cist measuring 71cm in length, 51cm in width at the eastern end and 31cm in width at the western end. A bowl (said to have contained a black greasy substance) was found in one of the corners at the eastern end and it accompanied a deposit of cremated bone. Another bowl and cremation had been placed on a slab in one of the transepts of the megalithic tomb. Another burial was found on the eastern side of the cairn, it consisted of the unburnt remains of a child; the skull and some of the long bones, which rested on a small slab, were protected by two other slabs, one leaning against the other. These bones were accompanied by 'the bones of a bird, about the size of a plover'. *PRIA* 20 (1896–98), 659.

MULLYKNOCK (Topped Mountain), Co. Fermanagh. Fig. 49. OS 23
A cairn on the summit of a hill some 275 metres above OD measured approximately 27m in diameter and 3.5m in height. No kerb was noted when it was excavated in 1898. Traces of at least three burials were found, all more or less in the SE quadrant of the cairn. No centrally placed burial was found. 1. Some 3m from the edge of the cairn a sub-rectangular cist of dry masonry had apparently been constructed in the body of the mound; it was roofed by a single capstone and paved with small slabs. Its long axis lay N–S and it measured

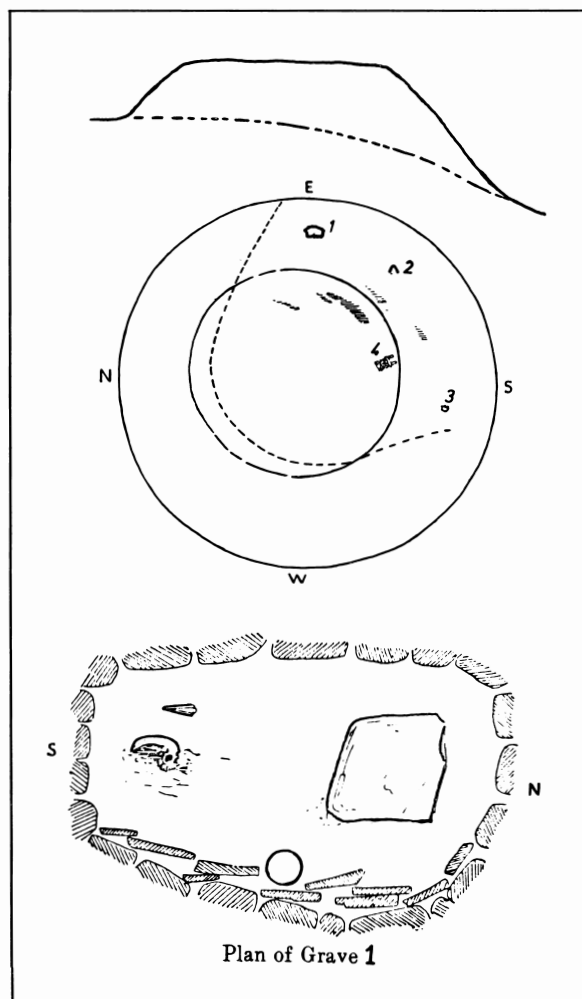


Fig. 49. Topped Mt., Co. Fermanagh (after Plunkett and Coffey).

1.22m in length internally, 76cm in maximum width and some 60cm in depth; at the south end the decayed skull of an adult male was found and a few fragments of long bones were found in the middle of the grave; this burial may have been crouched. On the western side of the skull a bronze dagger point to south, and portion of a gold pommel binding were found. Sherds of a vase lay midway in the grave at its eastern side. At the northern end of the grave two thin slabs, the largest measuring 46cm in maximum length, lay one on top of the other; beneath them was found a deposit of cremated bone which included fragments of a human skull. 2. A cremation protected by a pair of slabs (one leaning against the other) 10m S of cist near edge of cairn. A similar lean-to arrangement of stones was found at the centre of the cairn, but no burial. 3. On the southern side, an apparently unprotected deposit

of cremated bone and charcoal was found lying on a small flat slab. Among the bones was a polished stone axehead. 4. Some 2.50m from the centre of the cairn 'unburnt matter and charcoal' were found on a flagstone protected by a few upright slabs. Here also a few minute fragments of burnt bone and a few scraps of decayed pottery were found. At various parts of the mound traces of charcoal, two flint flakes and three scrapers were discovered. *PRIA* 20 (1896-98), 651; 67 C (1968), 56; *UJA* 32 (1969), 63.

RATORAN, Co. Fermanagh.

OS 23

Within a few perches of a megalithic structure 'urns containing ashes and bones' are recorded; 'a repository of ashes and bones in the ground, in small spaces and covered over respectively with little flags' also noted. About 70 or 80 perches from the megalithic stones 'urns (were) dug up ... with ashes and bones in them'. Letter 19th October 1867 from John Fee to Sir J. Emerson Tennant. Belfast PRO D2922. (Information from B. Williams).

KNOCKNINNY CAVE, Sheehinny, Co. Fermanagh.

OS 33

A recess in this cave contained an encrusted urn inverted on flat slab; the urn held cremated bones. Sherds of vase urn were also found. A cairn on Knockninny Mountain contained at least one cist and yielded two urns and cremated bones. *PRIA* 15 (1870-9), 329, *PSAMNI* 179.

ANNAGHKEEN, Co. Galway.

OS 55

A large round cairn some 30m in diameter and 4.5m high was partly quarried away in 1907 and found to contain in its south-eastern quadrant a large rectangular cist approximately 1.20m in length, 70cm in width, and 76cm in depth, long axis NW-SE. It contained cremated bones accompanied by a vase and a pottery lid, a miniature cup (Kavanagh 27), a number of decayed potsherds, a bronze dagger, and bronze awl, and a quartz pebble. It seems the vase stood mouth upwards near the bones in the centre of the paved floor, the dagger lying nearby. The cup stood at the NW end, the lid lay at the other. *JGAHS* 5 (1907-8), 159; 34 (1974-75) 11. *PRIA* 67 C (1968), 41.

ANNAGHKEEN, Co. Galway.

Fig. 50.

OS 55

A circular tumulus situated some 200m SW of the large cairn investigated in 1907, was examined in

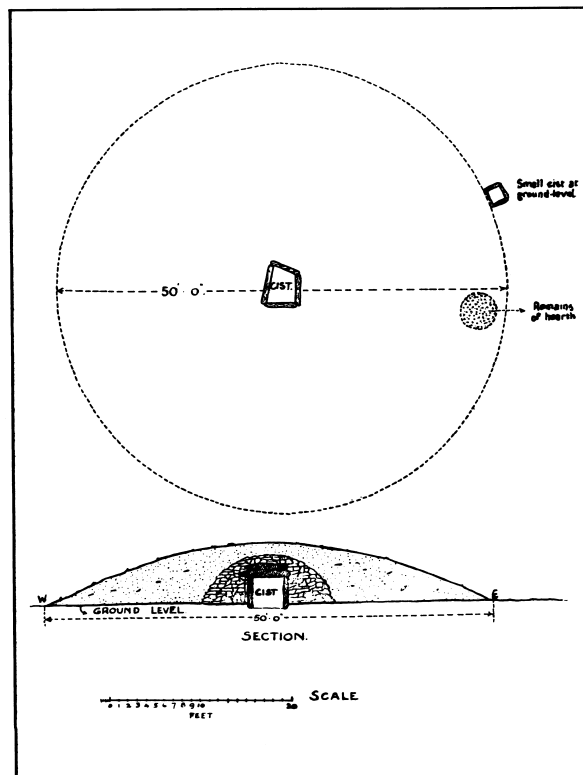


Fig. 50. Annaghkeen, Co. Galway (after Costello).

1924; it measured about 15m in diameter and some 2m in height; it consisted of an earthen mound with a cairn-like core, beneath which was a sub-rectangular, slab-built, cist constructed on the old ground surface. The cist was roofed by two large capstones, one on top of the other; its long axis lay N-S, and it measured approximately 1.20m by 98cm internally and was about 95cm deep. The contents of the grave had been disturbed after discovery, but had comprised the unburnt bones of an adult male of over 40 years, and those of a child of 4-5 years of age, and a bowl. The skull of the adult skeleton had lain at the west side of the grave. The bowl had lain partly on its side near the south-eastern corner; at the north end of the cist there had lain a flat, oval, slab 60cm in greatest length. The grave also contained an oddly shaped pebble. Near the edge of the mound, on the south-east, a layer of stones covered with charcoal to depth of 5cm to 8cm lay on the old ground surface, and numerous fragments of charcoal were noted throughout the make-up of the earthen mound. At the north-eastern edge of the mound was found a second, slab-built cist measuring about 60cm square, no capstone was recorded. The cist was reported as

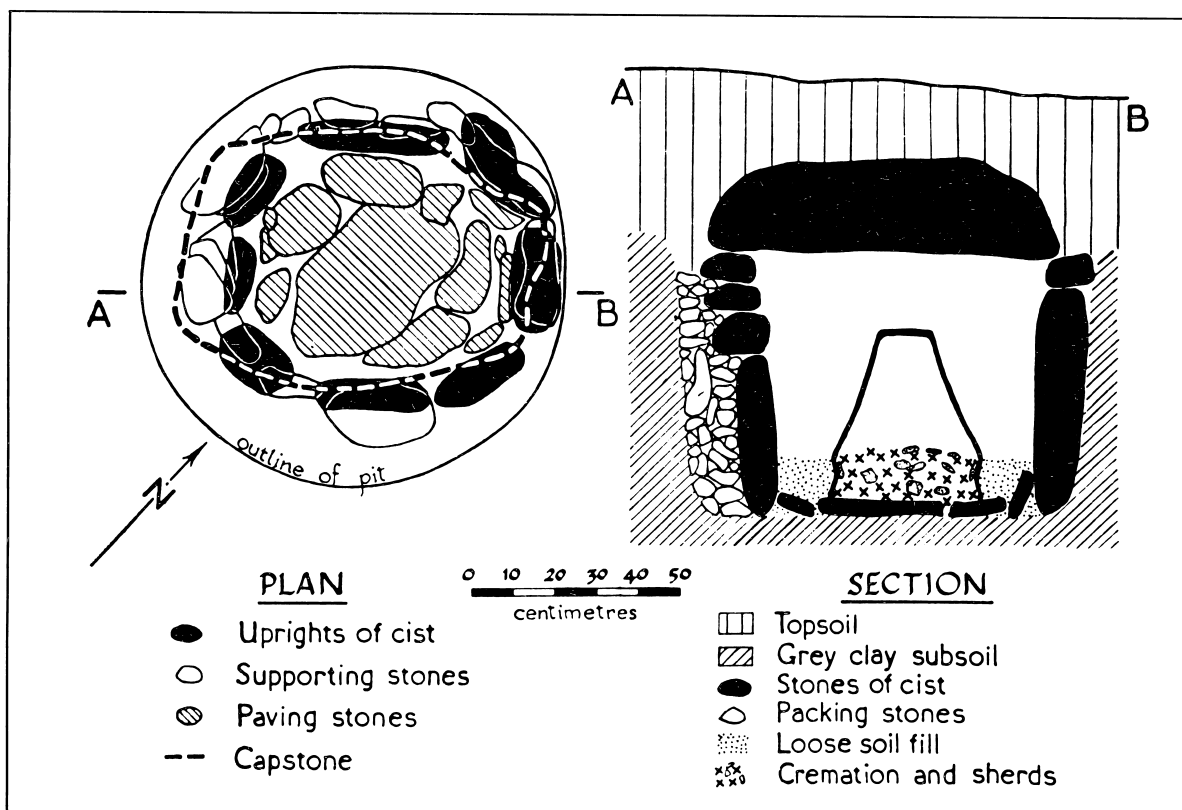


Fig. 51. Caltragh, Co. Galway (after Rynne).

having contained 'some fragments of bones'. *JGAHS* 12 (1922-3), 110; 34 (1974-75), 11.

ANNAGHKEEN, Co. Galway.

OS 55

An urn burial was found in this townland about 1909, some 300m south of the tumulus investigated in 1924. The urn, measuring approximately 30cm in height, was found just below ground level; it had presumably been placed in a pit, mouth upwards, it contained cremated bones and had been covered by a flat stone. It was not preserved and no other details are available. *JGAHS* 12 (1922-23), 118.

Near ATHENRY, Co. Galway.

OS 84

A small, plain, biconical cup (Kavanagh 28) was apparently found with cremated bone near Athenry, in 1848. No details of the grave are preserved. Wilde (1857), 177, 124.

CALTRAGH, Co. Galway.

Fig. 51.

OS 42

A small, polygonal, cist found in the course of ploughing had been constructed of eight upright stones placed in a circular pit 1m in diameter and depth; it had a roughly flagged floor and had been

roofed with a capstone. In the cist was an inverted urn of the vase urn category. This contained the cremated bones of at least one adult and a child of 7 to 10 years. With the bones were found a plano-convex flint knife which had been subjected to intense heat, possibly in the cremation pyre, a bone pin, also burnt, and sherds of a second vase urn. The flint knife was found in the NE angle of the cist, and its position here was probably due to the disturbance of the burial; it may originally have been placed in the urn. *NMI. JRSAI* 91 (1961), 45.

CARROWBEG NORTH, Co. Galway.

Fig. 52. Fig. 53.

OS 43

Two round burial mounds were excavated in 1937: TUMULUS 1: a low, earthen, mound some 12m in diameter, with a cairn-like core, was surrounded by a rock-cut ditch 4.20m wide and 1.20m deep. At the centre of the mound, beneath the cairn of stones, was a layer, of charcoal and fragments of cremated bone, measuring 3.20m by 2.10m; this was taken to be the remains of the funeral pyre. Beneath this layer, and cut through it, was an oval pit-grave measuring 89cm in length, 69cm in width,

and 38cm in depth. The pit contained the cremated bones of an adult, probably male, accompanied by a small bronze knife or 'razor'. Four secondary burials of later, possibly Iron Age, date were found in the ditch on the northern periphery of the mound; all were unprotected, skeletal burials, extended in three instances; one was accompanied by a bronze locket and twelve bone beads.

TUMULUS II: A small, earthen, mound, built on a low knoll on an esker to increase the illusion of size: it stood 1.07m above undisturbed gravel, but its height above the surrounding land was 2.21m. Its average overall diameter was about 16m and it was surrounded by a small ditch, 46cm wide and 30cm deep. At the centre was a small hollow, 30cm in diameter and 15cm deep, which contained a few, very comminuted, fragments of cremated bone of a human adult and some animal. Some 61cm to the south, a short rectangular cist set in a circular pit was found, it was slab-built with a capstone, internal length 64cm, width 30cm, depth 53cm; its long axis lay WNW-ESE. It contained the cremated bones of one human adult, with which was found a plano-convex flint knife. At some later date the mound had been heightened by some 38cm by the addition of a capping, some 4m in diameter, which consisted of earth with some fragments of unidentifiable cremated bone. A turf line separated this secondary feature from the original mound. *JGAHS* 18 (1939), 121.

CARROWTOBER, Co. Galway. OS 71/84
A small short, rectangular cist was found in a sand-ridge in 1929; it was apparently slab-built, with a slab forming the floor; it measured 53cm by 22cm internally, and was 23cm deep; the long axis was SW-NE. The cist was rifled after discovery, but had contained the unburnt bones of a child, less than one year old, which had been accompanied by a vase. *JRSAI* 59 (1929), 181. *JGAHS* 14 (1928-29), 141.

CARROWTOBER EAST, Co. Galway. OS 84
A short, rectangular, slab-built cist was found in the course of sand-quarrying in 1931; it was roofed by a capstone and measured approximately 104cm in length and 60cm in width; the long axis lay NE-SW. The cist contained the unburnt skeletal remains of a female adult, presumably crouched, with the head to the SW. To the north of the head was an inverted vase; the grave also contained two flint scrapers and fragments of the skull of a child.

JRSAI 61 (1931), 65. *Report on the National Museum* (1930-31), pl. 2: 4.

CAVE, Co. Galway. OS 42
A cairn, on a low hill, some 2km west of Knockma, measured over 24m in diameter and over 4m in height. It had been used as a quarry for stones for many years, and in 1902 a long cist was found in its southern portion constructed 'a few feet over the ground', somewhere between the edge and the centre. The cist, constructed of dry, limestone, masonry, had a floor slab and a large, sandstone, capstone over 2m long; it was, apparently, of approximately rectangular shape and measured internally some 2.20m in length, 1.07m in width, and 1.07m in depth. The long axis lay E-W. It contained the (possibly) extended skeleton of an adult, head to the west. A vase stood, mouth upwards, at the eastern end of the grave and portion of another lay near the head of the skeleton. *JRSAI* 35 (1905), 34.

CLARETUAM, Co. Galway. OS 43
A short cist was found c. 1951 in an esker; it reportedly measured about 75cm square and was roofed with a large capstone. It contained cremated bone, a flint arrowhead, and a mussel shell. No further details available. *JGAHS* 34 (1974-5), 14.

CLOGHROAK, Co. Galway. OS 104
In 1900 a short, rectangular, cist was found in gravel digging; made of four slabs and covered by a capstone, it measured approximately 120cm in length, 69cm in width, and 61cm in depth; the long axis lay N-S. Two vases were found; they, apparently, stood mouth upwards midway along either side of the grave; the remains of two unburnt skeletons were found, the skulls, reportedly, one in each corner at the northern end; the bones were those of a young person, probably female, and an infant - the cist also contained the cremated bones of an adult male. Two accounts of this discovery have been published and its provenance has been variously given as 'Cloghroak' and 'near Ardrahan'; it thus erroneously appears twice in my list of Irish cist graves published in *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 107. *PRIA* 24 C (1902), 1; 33 C (1916-17), 505.

CLOONTEEN, Co. Galway. OS 28
A small, short rectangular cist was found in 1943 in the course of removing sand from a sand-pit. It consisted of four upright slabs and a capstone, and

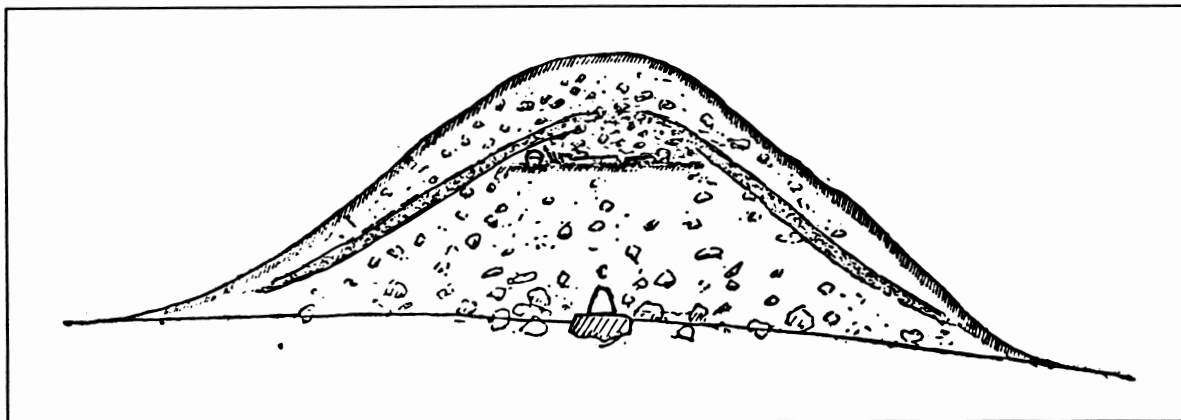


Fig. 54. Farta, Co. Galway (after Coffey).

measured 53cm in length, 30cm in width and in height. The grave contained the cremated bones of one adult; with the bones were found a flint knife and a plano-convex knife of white chert. *JGAHS* 21 (1944-45), 96, *JRSAI* 74 (1944), 228; 100 (1970), 118.

CORRANDRUM, Co. Galway.

OS 57

A short, almost rectangular, slab-built cist was found in an esker; its long axis lay NE-SW. and it measured 76cm in length, 62cm in maximum width, and 46cm, in depth; the floor was paved with a single slab. It contained cremated bones, accompanied by a vase, two plano-convex flint knives, and a small, segmented, bone object, possibly a pin-head. The bones were those of an adult and the bone object and the flints had been placed on the top of them; the position of the vase was not recorded. Some 10m west of this grave another cist 'containing bones' had been found sometime before 1933. *JGAHS* 16 (1934-35), 63, 125. Powell, in Lynch and Burgess, *Prehistoric Man in Wales and the West* (1972), 103.

FARTA, Co. Galway. Fig. 54.

OS 97

A circular tumulus 12.20m in diameter and 2.70m in height was investigated in 1903. It was constructed of stones and earth with a layer of sandy soil at a depth of about 90cm; at the centre of the mound, beneath this layer, and at a depth of 1m 20cm, was found the extended skeleton of an adult female; it was unprotected and lay head to the west. At the side of the skeleton, to the south were the remains of a number of red deer and of a small horse. The red deer remains consisted of two horns (with tines removed, and resembling antler picks)

and a leg-bone; the horse, a small, seven-year-old, stallion, had been buried entire, on its left side, head to the west. At the centre of the mound, on old ground level, was an unprotected urn burial: the urn, of the cordoned class, had contained cremated bones and had been inverted on a flat slab. *PRIA* 25 C (1904-5), 14.

GLOVES MIDDLE, Co. Galway.

OS 84

A short, rectangular, slab-covered cist was found in 1934 in removing sand from a sand-pit; it lay some 30cms below the surface and reportedly measured 48cm in length and 38cm in width; the long axis lay N-S. The grave was disturbed after discovery, but had contained cremated bones of an adult and many fragments of pottery, a flint knife, and two or three flint scrapers. The present location of the finds is not known. *JGAHS* 34 (1974-5), 16.

GORTNAHOWN, Co. Galway.

OS 84

Two short, rectangular, cists were found, in 1913, in a gravel-ridge south of Athenry; one measured approximately 62 by 41cm deep and contained unburnt bones accompanied by a vase; the other measured 61 by 51cm by 38cm deep and, reportedly, contained 'bones'. A number of other 'graves' are said to have been found; a boat's tusk from one is preserved in the National Museum but no precise details are known. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 118.

Near HEADFORD, Co. Galway.

OS 41/42

A cairn near Headford, opened in 1678, covered what may have been a cist. The grave contained two pottery vessels, 'a greater and a less, both of them containing ashes and burnt bones'. A vase

from this general area is preserved in the National Museum of Ireland; it was reportedly found with cremated bones. Molyneux, in Boate, *A Natural History of Ireland* (1755), 201. *JRSAI* 44 (1914), 374.

INISHEER, ARAN, Co. Galway. OS 120
A mound close to 'Trawkeera' was investigated in 1885 and found to be surrounded by a thick wall of large stones; beneath the mound were stones set on end, about 1.2m high, enclosing a circular grave about 1.5m in diameter. At a depth of 90cm in this grave, a small pot and a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 26) were found. Both vessels contained cremated bones and a charred substance. A fragment of a bronze pin, or an awl, is also recorded. *PRIA* 16 (1879–88), 476. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 118.

KILCORNAN, Co. Galway. OS 95
A small flat cemetery of three cist graves: these were discovered at different dates between 1948 and 1950 in the course of sand-quarrying in an esker. 1. A short, approximately rectangular, slab-built cist measuring 66cm in length, 25 to 38cm in width, and 30cm in depth; it was roofed with a capstone and the floor was formed of a single slab; the long axis lay SSE–NNW. The cist contained the crouched skeleton of a youth on its right side, the skull to the SSE. A vase had been placed at the back of the neck. 2. A small, slab-built, cist measuring approximately 46cm square; with capstone but no floor-slab. It was destroyed after discovery, but had contained cremated bones. 3. A short cist: no details. A few sherds of a vase and some cremated bone were discovered. Stray finds in the sand-pit included some cremated bone, a calcined flint scraper, and a small sherd of plain pottery, possibly vase. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 118. *JGAHS* 34 (1974–5), 17.

KILCORNAN, Co. Galway. OS 95
What appears to have been another flat cemetery is recorded some 50m south-west of the cist graves (see above). In 1948 an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 40) was exposed by the collapse of the face of a gravel pit, it was inverted in a pit grave covered by a thin flat slab of limestone and contained cremated human bones. Some small pockets of cremated bone were noted in the face of the gravel pit about 2m from the urn burial. No further details available. Local people maintained that 'many skeletons' had been found in this esker over the

years. *JGAHS* 34 (1974–5), 18.

KILDRUM (?), Co. Galway. OS 42
A hill-top cairn to the west of the cairn in Cave townland (see above) and probably in the townland of Kildrum, was slightly interfered with in 1902. At the centre, at a depth of about 1.20m were found 'the upper maxilla and other bones of an adult human skull, and a whetstone'; the latter was of sandstone and measured 11.5 by 1.9cm. *JRSAI* 35 (1905), 37.

LODGE, Co. Galway. OS 42
A large, round cairn was destroyed in 1936. It measured approximately 40m in diameter and 7m in height. At the base of the cairn, a massive, rectangular, cist was found; it measured 1.90m in length; 1.12m in width, and 48cm in depth, and was roofed with a large capstone and floored with another slab. It contained decayed bones, in great disorder, representing three individuals: an adult male, a second adult, possibly female, and an infant. Bronze Age? *JGAHS* 17 (1936–37), 144.

MOYVEELA, Co. Galway. OS 95/96
A short rectangular, cist covered by 'a small mound' was examined in 1928 and found to contain the (apparently) crouched skeleton of a young person, possibly female, accompanied by a vase. *JGAHS* 14 (1928–29), 79; 16 (1934–35), 182.

OWER, Co. Galway. Fig. 55. OS 41
A short, rectangular, slab-built cist measured 70cm by 40cm internally and 45cm in depth: it was covered by a capstone and floored with a cobbling of small stones; long axis E–W. At the centre of the cist, mouth upwards on the cobbling, was a vase full of cremated bones. The cist was filled almost to the capstone with fine, grey sand which contained cremated bones at all levels. The bones were identified as those of a small human. *JGAHS* 20 (1942), 75.

PARK, Co. Galway. OS 69
A short, rectangular, cist, internally about 90cm long, about 45cm wide and 50cm deep, was found in a gravel hillock in 1934. It was slab-built and roofed with a capstone; the floor was apparently cobbled. The side slabs were arranged 'in cyclic order'. The long axis lay NE–SW. The grave contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male, lying on its left side, head at the NE end. A few

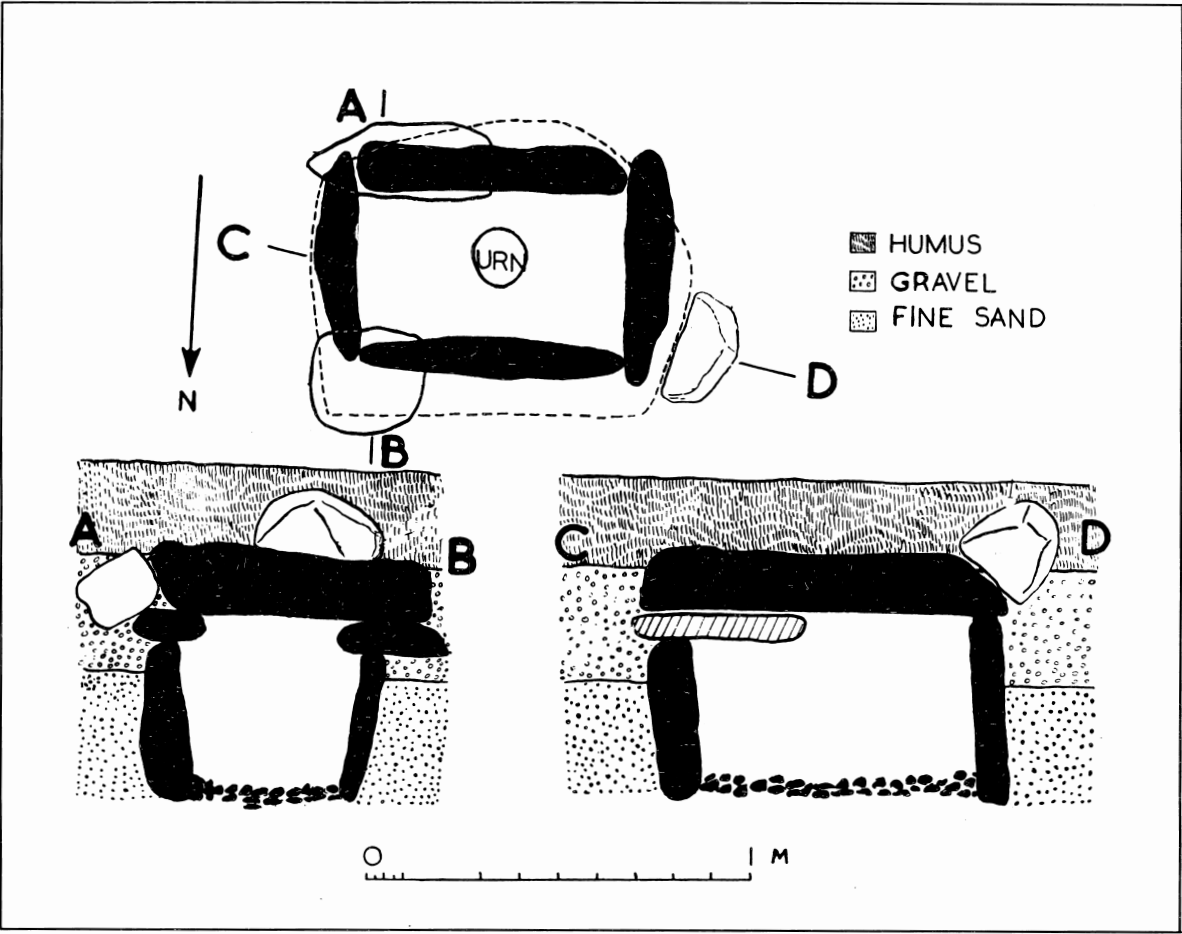


Fig. 55. Ower, Co. Galway (after J. Raftery).

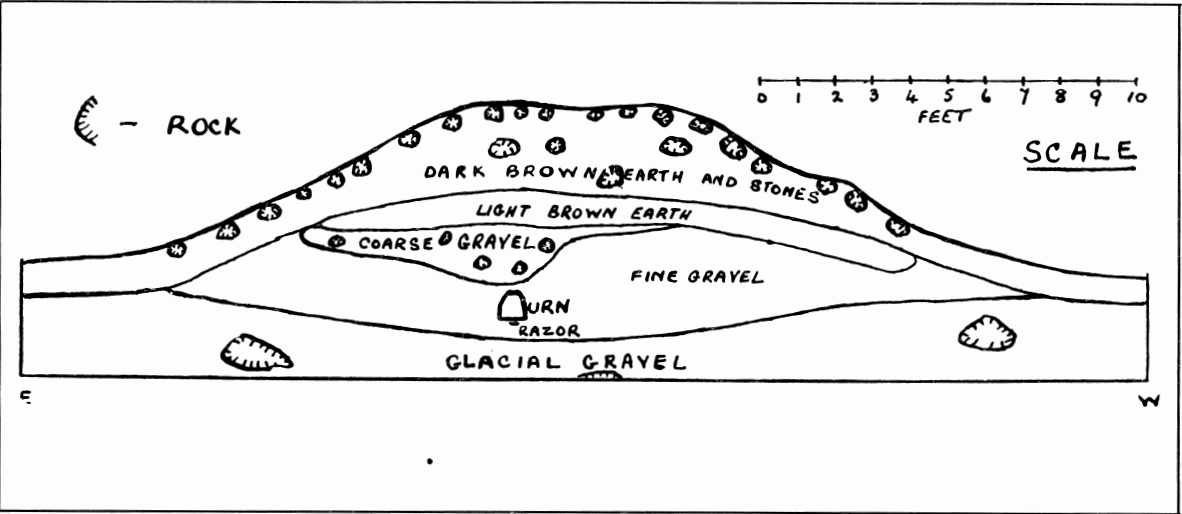


Fig. 56. Pollcorragune, Co. Galway (after Riley).

scraps of possibly burnt clay were noted at the feet of the skeleton. *JGAHS* 17 (1936), 24.

POLLACORRAGUNE, Co. Galway. Fig. 56.

OS 29

A round mound, known as 'Carnfanny', was excavated in 1935; it measured 7.60m in diameter and 1.20m in height, and was situated on the summit of a natural rise on an esker. It was constructed of layers of earth and stones and gravel. Almost at the centre of the mound, in a layer of natural fine gravel, was found a cordoned urn burial (Kavanagh 27). The urn was inverted, and contained cremated bones and an ornamented, tanged, bronze razor. In the uppermost levels of the mound, fragments of animal bones, including ox, pig, sheep or goat, and horse were found as were traces of charcoal. South-east of the centre, at a depth of about 30cm, seven minute blue glass beads were found close to the skeleton of a dog. A few fragments of burnt bone were also found in the upper part of the mound. A second mound (?), some 200m SE, was also excavated and proved to be of Iron Age or later date. *JGAHS* 17 (1936), 44.

TUAM, Co. Galway.

OS 29

A pottery vessel (lost) was found in a tumulus which was destroyed in the early 1900s. Ó Murchú, *Tuam* (1971), 7.

BALLYNORIG WEST, Co. Kerry.

OS 14/15

The remains of a cairn, possibly circular, were partly examined by S. P. Ó Ríordáin in 1942. Three stones, possibly the last vestiges of a kerb, were found; about 4m S of these, three stones, each about 63cm long and 66cm high, partly protected two pockets of cremated bone representing one adult human; some animal remains were also found. The only other finds appear to have been two flint flakes. *JCHAS* 48 (1943), 106. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 102, fn 54.

Near GNEEVULLIA, Co. Kerry.

OS 60

A cist found in 1924 on the Cork-Kerry border contained an inverted urn and cremated bones: the cist, which was found in the course of ploughing, had a capstone which weighed about 2 cwt, it was built of four slabs and had a floor slab. The urn, ornamented 'with strokes', measured about 25cm in rim diam. and was about 30cm high. Letter in Royal Society of Antiquaries, Dublin, 27-10-26 (Information from R. Haworth).

BLACKHILL, Co. Kildare.

OS 15

Short rectangular cist 51 by 33cm, long axis N-S approx. Contained crouched skeleton of a child (with legs bent) lying on its back, head to S. Bowl found at feet. Minutes of *PRIA* 27th June, 1932, 21. Raftery, *Prehistoric Ireland* (1951), 38, figs. 34-5.

BROWNSTOWN, Co. Kildare.

OS 23

A small flat cemetery of at least 4 or 5 burials found in an esker known as Mellon Hill c. 1937: 1. An encrusted urn (Kavanagh 42) apparently found inverted in a pit – associated with cremated bones and a plano-convex flint knife. 2. An encrusted urn (Kavanagh 41) found standing mouth upwards on a slab in a pit; it contained cremated bones and a small accessory cup was also found. 3. A bowl was found beside the skull of an unburnt burial in a pit. 4. About 3m from no. 3 another bowl was found with an unburnt burial, presumably in a pit. 5. Sherds of two other bowls are preserved. An urn burial was found between nos. 3 and 4 but it is not certain if this was one of the encrusted urns noted above. NMI.

CALVERSTOWN, Co. Kildare

Fig. 57. OS 28/32

Short rectangular cist contained a bowl and a skeleton 'in a sitting position', i.e. crouched. *TRIA* 2 (1989), 51.

GORTEEN, Co. Kildare.

OS 39/40

'A cavity or stone chamber' covered by a large flat stone – presumably a cist – contained cremated bones and two pottery vessels; one, a small vase, is preserved, the other was destroyed on discovery in the hope that it contained gold. They had been placed at opposite ends of the cist. *J. Kildare A. S.* 5 (1906-8), 119.

GRANEY WEST, Co. Kildare.

OS 40

A flat cemetery of three burials was found in a sand-ridge in 1953, all were disturbed. 1. A flat slab 130 by 100cm resting on small rounded boulders protected two adult male skeletons (presumably crouched) and two bowls (one has three barley impressions). 2. Small cist-like structure (three slabs on edge but no capstone noted) contained a bowl, a cremation and two pendants (one of stone, and one of bone?) resembling the Labbamolaga, Co. Cork, example but with 'segmented' stems. 3. Pit grave containing a crouched skeleton and some unclassifiable sherds. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 119.

To Face Plate of Ant.

Nº 5

Fig. 2



Fig. 1.

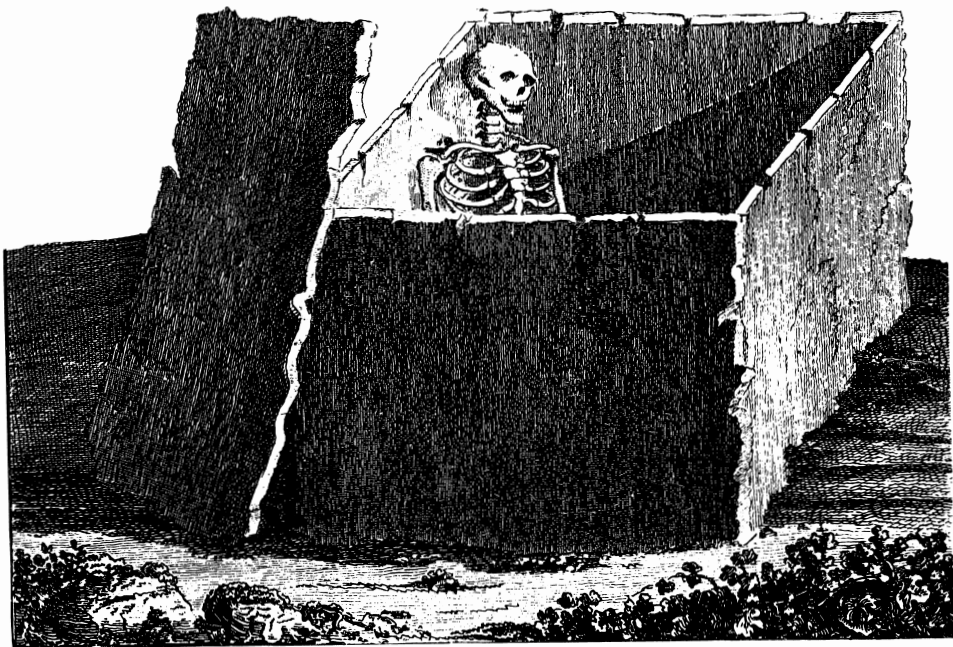


Fig. 57. Calverstown, Co. Kildare: an eighteenth-century depiction of a bowl and a crouched skeleton in a cist (after Beauford).

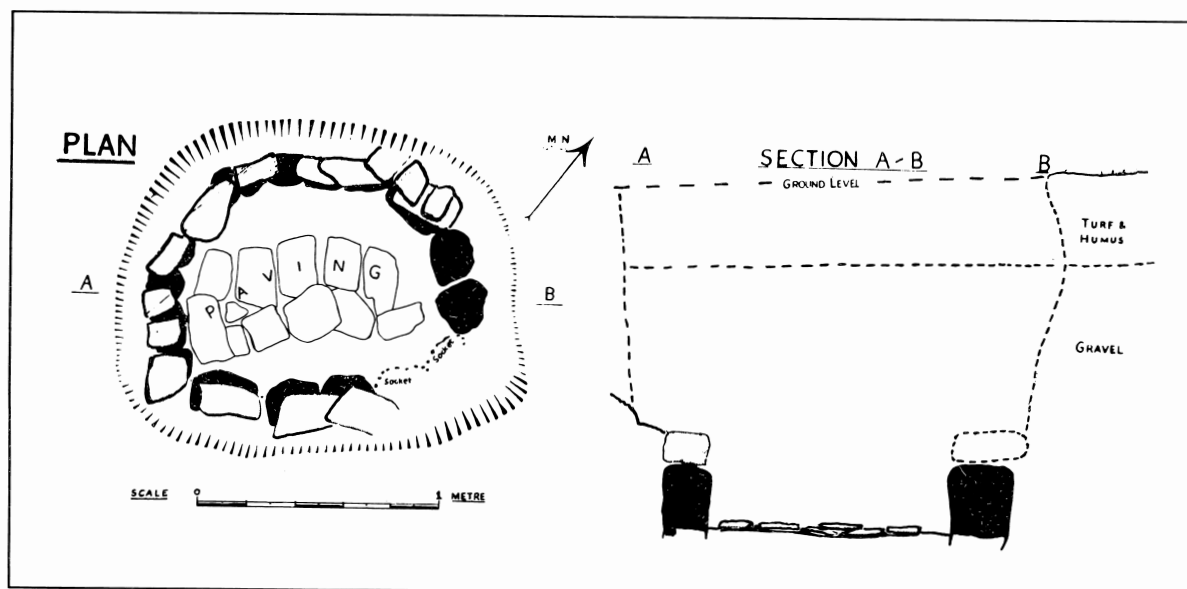


Fig. 58. Hempstown Commons, Co. Kildare (after Hartnett).

HALFMILETOWN, Co. Kildare.

OS 40

A short, presumably rectangular, cist measuring about 91 by 61cm contained 'a bucket full of broken stones': no other finds. *J. Kildare A. S.* 8 (1915-17), 163.

HALVERSTOWN, Co. Kildare.

OS 28

Short rectangular cist, 61 by 38cm, contained the cremated bones of a small adult and an unborn child. Three teeth suggest the presence of an infant about 1 year old. *JRSAI* 68 (1938), 293.

HALVERSTOWN, Co. Kildare.

OS 28

A small flat cemetery of three burials found in an esker about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile N of the cist noted above: 1. Apparently a pit grave containing the crouched skeleton, lying on its right side, of an adult female of 25-40 years. The finder reported what may have been decayed organic matter beneath the body. 2. A pit grave about 3m from no. 1 contained a crouched skeleton, facing E; the bones were those of an adult male and associated with them were some fragments of charcoal and part of a femur of an ox. 3. Pit-grave containing the crouched skeleton of adult male, facing E, 'one hand supported the head'; a bowl stood mouth upwards behind the skull. *JRSAI* 70 (1940), 57.

HARTWELL UPPER, Co. Kildare.

OS 20

A bowl was found in a pit in a sand ridge associated with human bones (stated to be apparently char-

red), some charcoal and what was described as a 'copper spoon'. NMI.

HEMPSTOWN COMMONS, Co. Kildare.

OS 20

A short rectangular cist 102 by 41 by 61cm deep contained a crouched skeleton and (possibly) a small pottery vessel which was not preserved. *JRSAI* 68 (1938), 294.

HEMPSTOWN COMMONS, Co. Kildare.

Fig. 58.

OS 20

Oval cist 100 by 80cm, 40 to 50cm deep, consisted of walls of two courses of masonry and two capstones. One capstone 100 by 70cm survived and bore pecked ornament on its under surface. The cist contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male (position in grave not noted). *JRSAI* 80 (1950), 193.

KILRAINY, Co. Kildare.

OS 2/3

'Stone chamber' found in 1854; had capstone and contained 'a small human skeleton, that of a girl about eleven years old' and 'an urn, containing ashes'. A bowl is preserved. *J. Kildare A. S.* 3 (1899-1902), 330.

KNOCKELD, Co. Kildare.

OS 40

'A box made with a few large stones and a heap of mouldered bones deposited in it, the bones were all very small and decomposed'. No further details - found c. 1950. NMI. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 120.

- MAGANEY, Co. Kildare. Fig. 59. OS 39
An inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 43) on a flat slab in a polygonal cist contained the cremated bones of an adult female. *JRSAI* 92 (1962), 169.
- MULLAGHREELAN, Co. Kildare. OS 37/38
Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 44) inverted on a slab, apparently in a pit; it contained cremated bones. *J. Kildare A. S.* 2 (1896-99), 325.
- NEWTOWNMACABE, Co. Kildare. OS 10
A small cist found in an esker in 1971 contained an unburnt burial, the skull lay at the NW end of the grave, the floor of which was paved. A bowl accompanied the skeleton but no precise details about their position in the cist are recorded. *J. Kildare A. S.* 15 (1971), 19.
- NURNEY DEMESNE, Co. Kildare. OS 27
A bowl found in a gravel hill near which were formerly found some broken urns and burnt bones. There is a possible reference to this site in an anonymous 18th-century commonplace book in the National Library of Ireland (ms. 4137): 'In 1780 an earthen urn was discovered under a small earthen hillock at Nurney in the Co. of Kildare ... it was of half baked earth and contained some rude sculptures and characters ... and contained burnt bones and ashes. Several of the urns had been before found on this hill under the same kind of tumuli, and the ground which contained them enclosed by a circular trench.' (A useless thumb-nail sketch of the 'urn' provided merely indicates a small pot greater in diameter than in height). *BAP* 1, fig. 322.
- OLDTOWN, Co. Kildare. OS 23
A small ill-documented flat cemetery of three burials, all found in a sand-pit: 1. An unprotected burial presumably in a simple pit: a crouched skeleton lay with head to NW and feet to SE; sherds of a bowl were recovered from the grave. 2. A pit burial containing a crouched skeleton, head to NW and feet to SE, lying on its left side. A deposit of cremated bone was found in the area of the lower limbs. Both long sides of the pit-grave were lined with one course of small stones. A bowl was found close to the skull. 3. A pit burial, which lay some 7m from Burial 1, contained an unprotected skeleton, its position is not recorded. A small vase and a vase urn were reportedly recovered from this grave. No precise details are known. NMI.
- PLOOPLUCK, Co. Kildare. OS 19
A poorly recorded flat cemetery was discovered in an esker c. 1935. There is no record of cists so presumably all the burials were in pits: 1. Unburnt skeleton, no details. 2. Unburnt burial accompanied by a bowl. 3. Crouched skeleton in a pit, bowl found beside skull. 4. Bowl found with skeletal remains. The remains of four unburnt skeletons, two sherds of a bowl (?) and an urn sherd were also found in this area, though whether from this cemetery or not is uncertain. NMI. Raftery, *Prehistoric Ireland* (1951), 150.
- POLLARDSTOWN, Co. Kildare. OS 23
Sherds of an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 45) were found beneath 'stone slabs ... resting on small round stones'. *J. Kildare A. S.* 4 (1903-5), 313.
- TIPPER SOUTH, Co. Kildare. OS 19
Two large vases were found together with cremated bones: no further details known. *NMI Report*, 1929-30, 9.
- BALLYGUB, Co. Kilkenny. OS 33
What may have been an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 46) contained cremated bones and was inverted in a polygonal cist. Two other urns reported from the neighbourhood. *JRSAI* 1 (1849-5), 28.
- BALLYNOONY WEST, Co. Kilkenny. OS 40
A cemetery cairn (?): 'in front of the great stone ... were taken up six or seven small urns, containing ashes, disposed in cells formed of flags, and covered by a heap of stones' ... (Tighe). Another account states that the cairn was 20m in diam. and that three square cists were found each containing an urn nearly filled with bones; urns destroyed. *JRSAI* 1 (1849-51), 385. Tighe, *Statistical observations relative to the County of Kilkenny* (1802), 627. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 74.
- BALLYOSKILL, Co. Kilkenny. OS 5
Three vases (one a miniature vase) were found in a cist. Some fragments of burnt bone reported. Four other empty cists (one very small) also found: all empty. Cemetery mound. *Excavations* 1971, 16.
- BALLYVOOL, Co. Kilkenny. OS 32
A collared urn (Kavanagh 35; Longworth 1984, no. 2232) was found inverted on a slab in a poly-

gonal cist which measured about 51 by 43cm. The urn contained the cremated bones of one adult. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 120.

BLANCHFIELDSTOG, Co. Kilkenny. OS 17
A small 'stone coffin' built of slabs was found c. 1918 in a mound on top of a hill known as 'The Breagán'; the cist contained cremated bones and three vases. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 120.

CLOMANTAGH, Co. Kilkenny. OS 8
Short rectangular cist found about 2.4m south of a megalithic chamber which lay at the centre of a hilltop cairn. The cist, which measured 84 by 43 by 61cm deep had been disturbed: some cremated bone and a few potsherds were found. *JRSAI* 1 (1849-51), 289.

COLUMBKILLE, Co. Kilkenny. OS 28
Three small cists found at different places in this townland: no finds, apparently previously ransacked. Two urns also recorded. *JRSAI* 2 (1852-3), 367; 8 (1864-6), 328.

COOLE, Co. Kilkenny. OS 4/5
An apparently polygonal cist was found in 1872, when its capstone was struck by a plough. It is described as a hole about 46cm in diameter and 84cm deep 'built round with dry stones' and covered with a slab which measured approximately 120 by 50cm. According to the report, the finders 'beheld at the bottom a veritable crock, containing as they imagined nothing less precious than gold. Fortunately their terror overcame their cupidity for the moment, else this fine urn would have certainly shared the fate of so many others'. The urn, a vase urn, was inverted and contained cremated bones, it rested on a flat slab at the bottom of the grave. *JRSAI* 12 (1872-73), 115.

FREESTONE HILL, Coolgrange, Co. Kilkenny. Fig. 60. OS 20
A cemetery mound situated on a hill some 140m above OD had been greatly disturbed by the occupants of an Iron Age hillfort; most of the cairn material had been removed and only its lowest levels survived. It was roughly circular, 23m in diameter and had been retained by a kerb of stones. Within the cairn 3m from the kerb, the remains of an internal wall or revetment were found.

At least 16 graves were found containing the remains of at least 18 individuals: three were un-

burnt, the remainder were cremated. The burials were concentrated in the eastern half of the mound and one lay 1.5m east of the mound. Four were in cists, two were in pits and the rest were generally unprotected. Associated finds included two small bone pins found 'close to' a cremation (CI), several vases and a perforated bone plaque. Unassociated finds from the cairn and its vicinity include a bone pin, a bone cylinder, flint and chert implements, sherds of bowl and vase. *PRIA* 68 C (1969), 1.

COOLMORE, Co. Kilkenny. Fig. 61. OS 31
A small flat cemetery of four cists was found during sand quarrying, they lay in roughly a straight line at intervals of about 5m and all were short, rectangular and slab-built, with floor-slabs: 1. Long axis N-S, 90 by 56cm internally and 45cm deep, with capstone; it contained the cremated remains of four individuals accompanied by a boar's tusk, a fragment of rock crystal, a calcined flint knife or arrowhead and a plano-convex knife. 2. Long axis NW-SE, 60 by 43cm internally, about 30cm deep, with capstone, it contained the cremated bones of one individual under 20 years of age accompanied by a vase (possibly damaged by the action of fire), the basal portion of another, and a calcined knife of white chert. 3. Long axis approximately E-W, 60 by 40cm internally, about 30cm deep, no capstone found; if one had existed it may have been removed as an obstruction to ploughing. The cist contained the cremated bones of two individuals. 4. Long axis approximately E-W, 60 by 50cm internally and about 30cm deep, with capstone. This cist contained the cremated bones of one individual. *JRSAI* 93 (1963), 123; 100 (1970), 121. *Old Kilkenny Review* no. 15 (1963), 34-6.

DANESFORT, Co. Kilkenny. OS 23
A number of burials including two cist graves were found in sand-digging: 1. A small cist 'formed of four stones, with a flag at top and bottom', it contained cremated bones and a lidded vase. 2. In 1838 'a regularly built cist' constructed of four slabs with large capstone was found, the cist measured about 1.2m in length and 30cm in width and in depth. Its floor slab was covered with cremated bones. 'Across this cist at top lay long stones, placed at intervals; and in two of these intervals ... resting on the side stones, were placed two elaborately ornamented urns. These were again carefully covered, every crevice between the stones being completely closed with spawls of stone, and

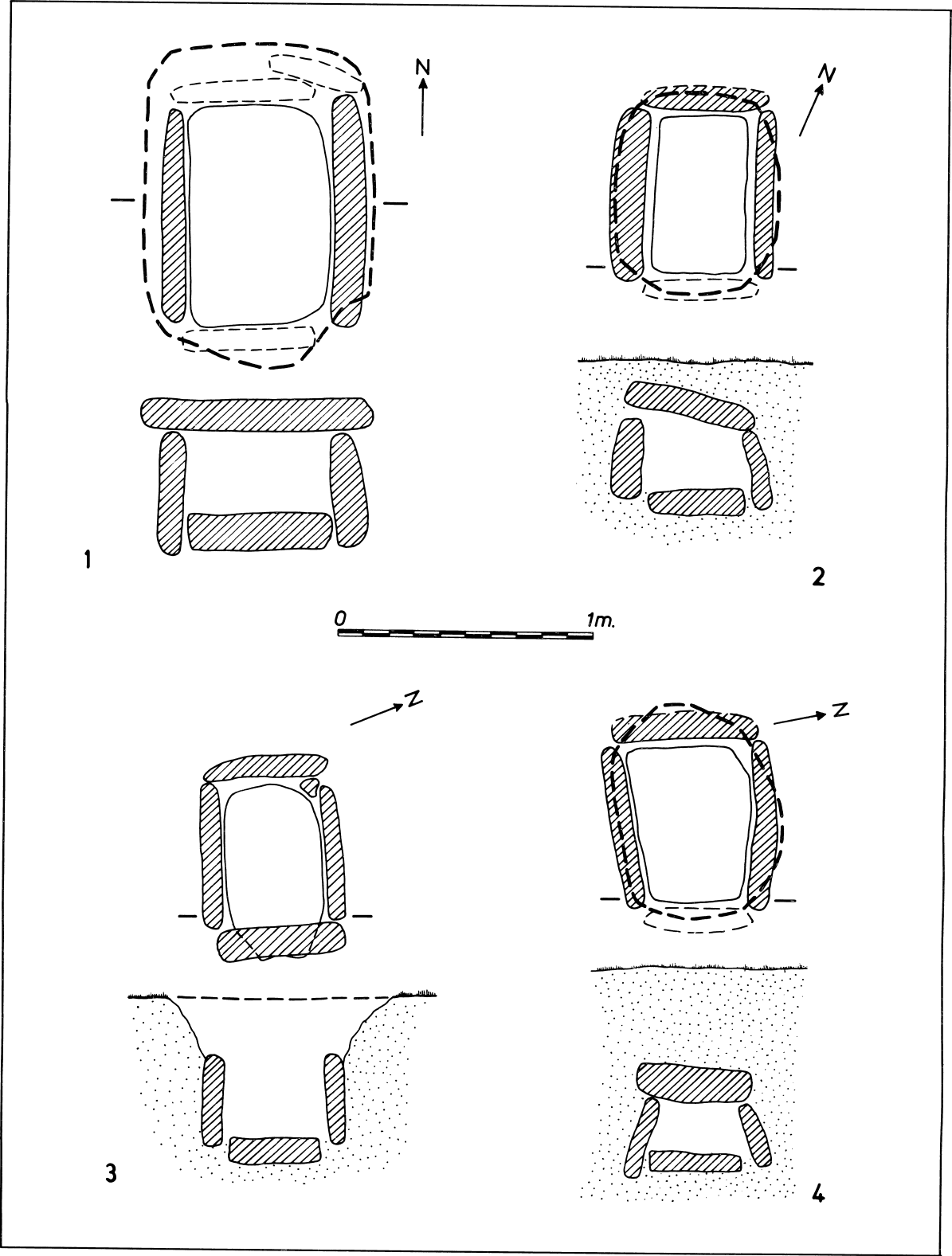


Fig. 61. Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny (after Prendergast).

over all the large slabs, above described, had been placed'. Near this cist two skeletons presumably in pits and each lying in an extended position were found. The lidded vase and another are preserved in NMI. Other vessels were apparently found in this sand-pit. *JRSAI* 6 (1860–61), 169; 12 (1872–3), 523. *BAP* 11, 59, fig. 569.

DUNINGA, Co. Kilkenny.

OS 21

Of a monument called 'Duninga fort' it is recorded: 'At this rath two small graves or tombs were discovered some years ago about two feet below the surface, beside each other, one of a child, the other of a full grown man, the graves were neatly flagged on the bottom and sides, one was 18 inches long and 14 high; the other 3 feet long by 18 inches, within was also found an earthen vessel of baked clay, which was broken by the carelessness of the workmen; the bones were not charred by fire'. The account of this discovery of a possible bowl is signed R. Fenwick and was probably written in 1838. The information came from Rev. W. K. Burroughs. Ordnance Survey Name Book, Grangesilvia parish, p. 50 (Reference from Eamon Cody).

Near ESKERTY BRIDGE, Reevanagh, Co. Kilkenny.

OS 11/15

A flat cemetery of a number of cists: two rectangular cists contained cremations, a third, 76 by 30cm, contained a cremation (possibly of an adult) and the disarticulated skeleton of a child. *JRSAI* 1 (1849–51), 29.

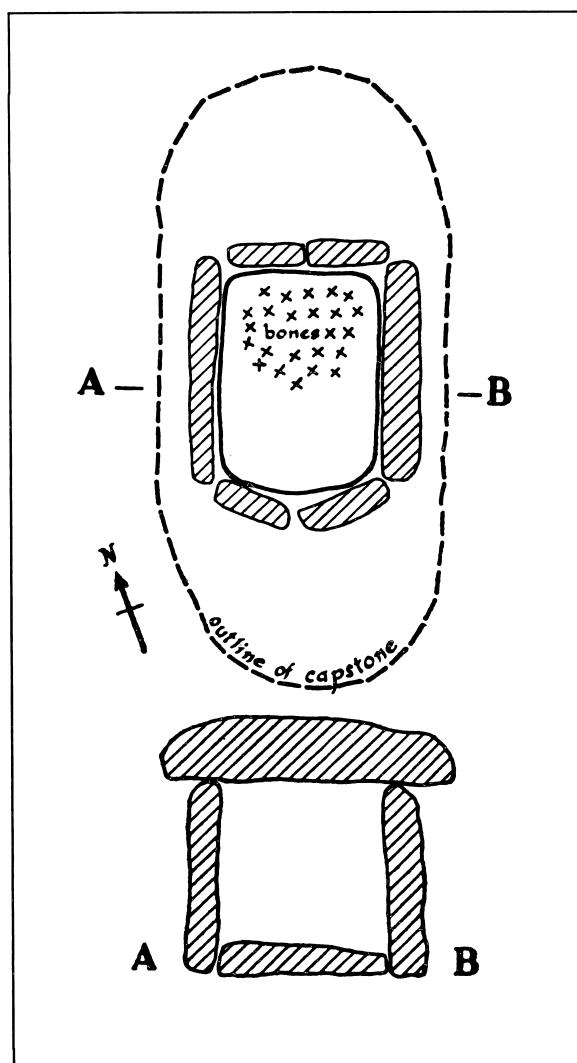


Fig. 62. Grange Lower, Co. Kilkenny (after a reconstruction by Prendergast).

GRANGE LOWER, Co. Kilkenny. Fig. 62.

OS 25

A short rectangular cist about 63 by 46 by 46cm deep was covered by a capstone 173cm long which extended well beyond the ends of the grave. It had a floor slab on which rested the cremated bones of one adult. Long axis of cist NNE–SSW. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 121.

GRANGE UPPER, Co. Kilkenny.

OS 21/25

In 1862 a cist burial was destroyed with all its contents: 'In deeply ploughing a field a large stone was come upon, on raising which, a small cist, formed of flags, was discovered, in which were the urns – one containing burned bones, and the other inverted over it, like a cover, – the upper urn being somewhat larger than the other ... Unfortunately, the finders being disappointed at the discovery that they had not got a "pot of gold", broke the urn to

pieces'. *JRSAI* 7 (1862), 234. Wood-Martin, *Pagan Ireland* (1895), 348.

KILCREEN, Co. Kilkenny.

OS 19

A small flat cemetery. 1. Short rectangular cist, 53 by 41 by 23cm deep, contained cremated bone. 2–3. Apparently polygonal cists containing cremations (?). *JRSAI* 3 (1854–5), 139, 181.

KILMURRY, Co. Kilkenny.

Fig. 63.

OS 43

Sub-rectangular cist, eastern end curved, long axis approx. NW–SE; 76 by 38 by 41cm deep; the cremated bones of one individual rested on a floor-slab; small piece of quartz found. *Old Kilkenny Review* no. 12 (1960), 57. *JRSAI* 91 (1961), 88.

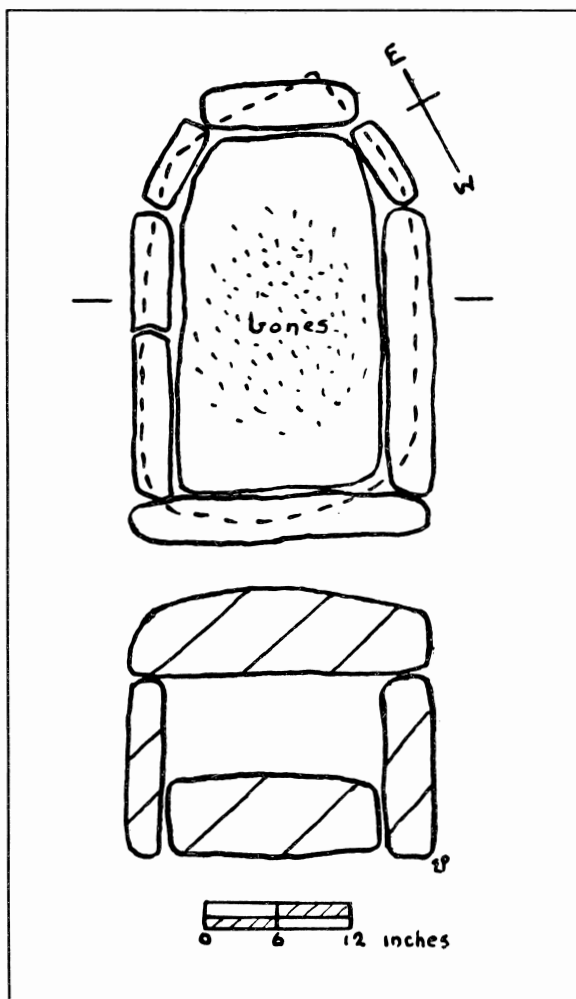


Fig. 63. Kilmurry, Co. Kilkenny (after Prendergast).

MOYHORA, Co. Kilkenny. OS 1/5/6
A polygonal cist contained an inverted vase urn, cremated bones and a miniature vase (Kavanagh 29). *JRSAI* 1 (1849–51), 136.

OLDCASTLE UPPER, Co. Kilkenny. OS 30
Three cists containing cremations found and destroyed in 1936. No details. A flat cemetery (?). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 121.

TOBERNABRONE, Co. Kilkenny. OS 39
'A small cavity regularly walled round', possibly a polygonal cist, contained an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 47) and cremated bones. *JRSAI* 15 (1879–82), 55.

AGHONEY, Co. Laois. OS 24/25
An urn 'capable of holding two quarts of liquid'

was found beneath a flat slab; it contained 'small broken bones'. *JRSAI* 1 (1849–51), 139.

BALLINACLOUGH LOWER, Timahoe, Co. Laois.

OS 24
Short square or rectangular cist approx. 36 by 36cm; contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 5 (1858–9), 106.

CUFFSBOROUGH, Co. Laois. OS 22/28/29
Short cist 'about four feet square' contained a crouched skeleton and a pottery vessel. *JRSAI* 9 (1867), 7.

CUFFSBOROUGH, Co. Laois. OS 22/28/29
A chamber measuring about 1.5m in diameter was found beneath a mound of earth; the chamber is said to have had a corbelled roof and to have contained the bones of two crouched skeletons. A Neolithic grave? *JRSAI* 2 (1852–3), 358.

Near DUNAMASE, Co. Laois. OS 13
Bowl found in a small stone chamber in a 'rath' (? tumulus); it accompanied unburnt bones. *BAP* 1, fig. 313. Wilde, *Beauties of the Boyne and Blackwater* (1850), 231. *PRIA* 4 (1847–50), 35.

HAYWOOD DEMESNE, Co. Laois. OS 30
Short rectangular cist about 90 by 60 by 45cm deep; it contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 122.

IRONMILLS, Co. Laois. Fig. 64. OS 30
Segmented cist about 60cm long, long axis NE–SW (segmented longitudinally), each chamber contained cremated bone. A few small fragments of unclassifiable pottery were also recovered. *JRSAI* 67 (1937), 295.

KNOCKARDAGUR, Co. Laois. OS 30
A cist described as about 1.5m long, 60cm wide, with paved floor and capstone contained a small vessel with thumb-nail ornament or something like it; the vessel was not preserved and no bones were noted. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 122.

LUGGACURREN, Co. Laois. OS 25
Two short cists were discovered in the course of ploughing in 1881. They lay parallel to each other about 3m apart and their long axes lay east-west. 1. Rectangular slab-built cist measuring approximately 110 by 48cm and 48cm in depth. Disturbed

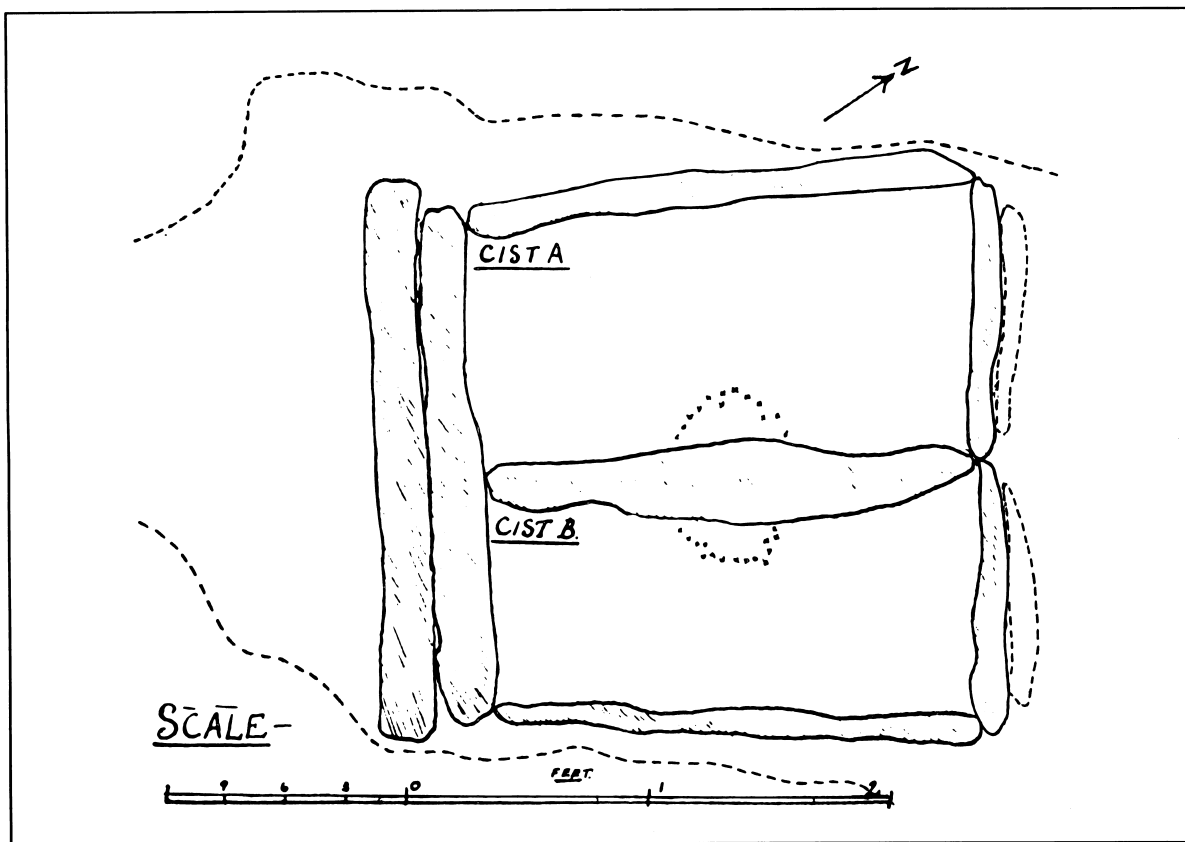


Fig. 64. Ironmills, Co. Laois (after Roe).

after discovery: a bowl was found in the south-east corner apparently accompanying unburnt skeletal remains. 2. Rectangular double cist, described as 'the double repository', entirely covered by two large capstones one placed above the other. A large conical depression was noted in the under surface of the lower capstone. One portion of this cist measured 96 by 56cm, the other 53 by 56cm, and both were 53cm deep. The smaller was described as a continuation of the larger portion and 'divided from it by a stone laid on end'. The contents of both compartments were disturbed after discovery. In the south-east corner of the larger compartment a bowl was found and both compartments may have contained unburnt bones. (It is stated that the skeletal remains of three individuals were found but it is not certain whether or not bones were found in each of the three graves). The bowls are not described in detail but it is stated that they were 'ornamented in a uniform manner'. The account continues: 'in the urns were found what appear (to be) two little links of beads, of some mineral substance of a bluish colour, and highly

polished and finished. There were also two rings of bronze'. One bowl and the two bronze bracelets are preserved in the National Museum of Ireland. The beads, which may have been faience, are lost. *JRSAI* 15 (1879-82), 446. *BAP* 1, 118, fig. 248, pl. LXI, o.48. *PSAS* 85 (1950-51), 46, fig. 4:29.

SHANAHOE, Co. Laois.

OS 23

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 49) found inverted in a pit and containing cremated bones; a small flat stone was placed on the base of the urn. *JRSAI* 76 (1946), 210.

Near TIMAHOE, Co. Laois.

OS 18/25

An 'urn' containing cremated bones was found in 'a triangular cist', formed by three upright flags, with a flag at top and bottom. *JRSAI* 1 (1849.51), 139.

CLOONEE, Co. Leitrim.

OS 33

Short rectangular cist, long axis NW-SE, 58 by 77cm; it contained a bowl and a cremation, the bowl was placed at the SE end of the grave. *JRSAI*

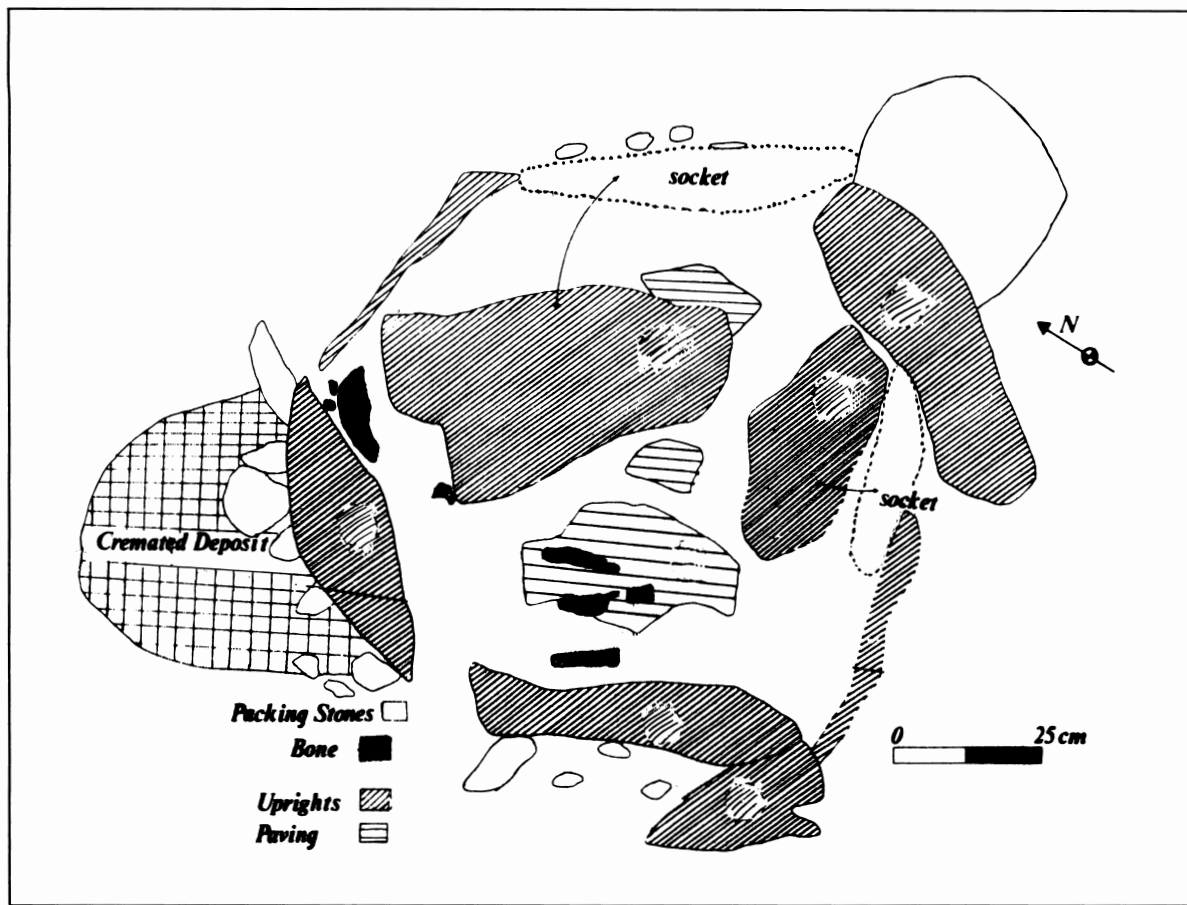


Fig. 65. Ballynagallagh, Co. Limerick (after Cleary and Jones).

100 (1970), 122.

BALLINLYNA UPPER, Co. Limerick. OS 56
Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 50) contained cremated bones and was inverted on a slab in a polygonal cist approx. 53cm in diameter. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 122.

BALLYNAGALLAGH, Co. Limerick. Fig. 65. OS 32
A disturbed polygonal cist was found to contain the remains of the crouched (?) unburnt skeleton of an adult, skull to NW. The cist had disturbed an earlier cremated burial. *NMAJ* 22 (1980), 3.

CUSH, Co. Limerick. Fig. 66. OS 48
A small flat cemetery of five graves had been disturbed by the occupants of a superimposed ringfort of early Historic times. The burials were all in an area measuring 7m by 3m: 1. An unprotected urn burial: a small plain cordoned urn (Kavanagh 28) had been placed mouth upwards, presumably in a pit, and had been completely filled with cremated

bones, some of which had spilled out of the vessel. The bones were those of a young adult. 2. A small rectangular slab-built cist covered by a large capstone contained a vase urn inverted on a paved floor; the urn contained the cremated bones of three individuals: an adult, a person aged between 15 and 19 years, and a child of 7 to 9 years. 3. A short rectangular slab-built cist measured 66cm by 38cm internally, and 36cm in depth. It had a single floor-slab and a capstone, its long axis lay NW-SE. It contained a large quantity of cremated bones representing two individuals, an adult and a young adult. 4. An urn partly protected by a flat boulder resting on a number of smaller stones. Only the rim of the pot survived, it was apparently a plain bucket shaped vessel. It had contained cremated bones which were unidentifiable. 5. Another flat boulder supported on a few small stones partly protected a deposit of cremated bone; none of the bones were identifiable but two teeth were those of a child. *PRIA* 45 C (1939-40), 110.

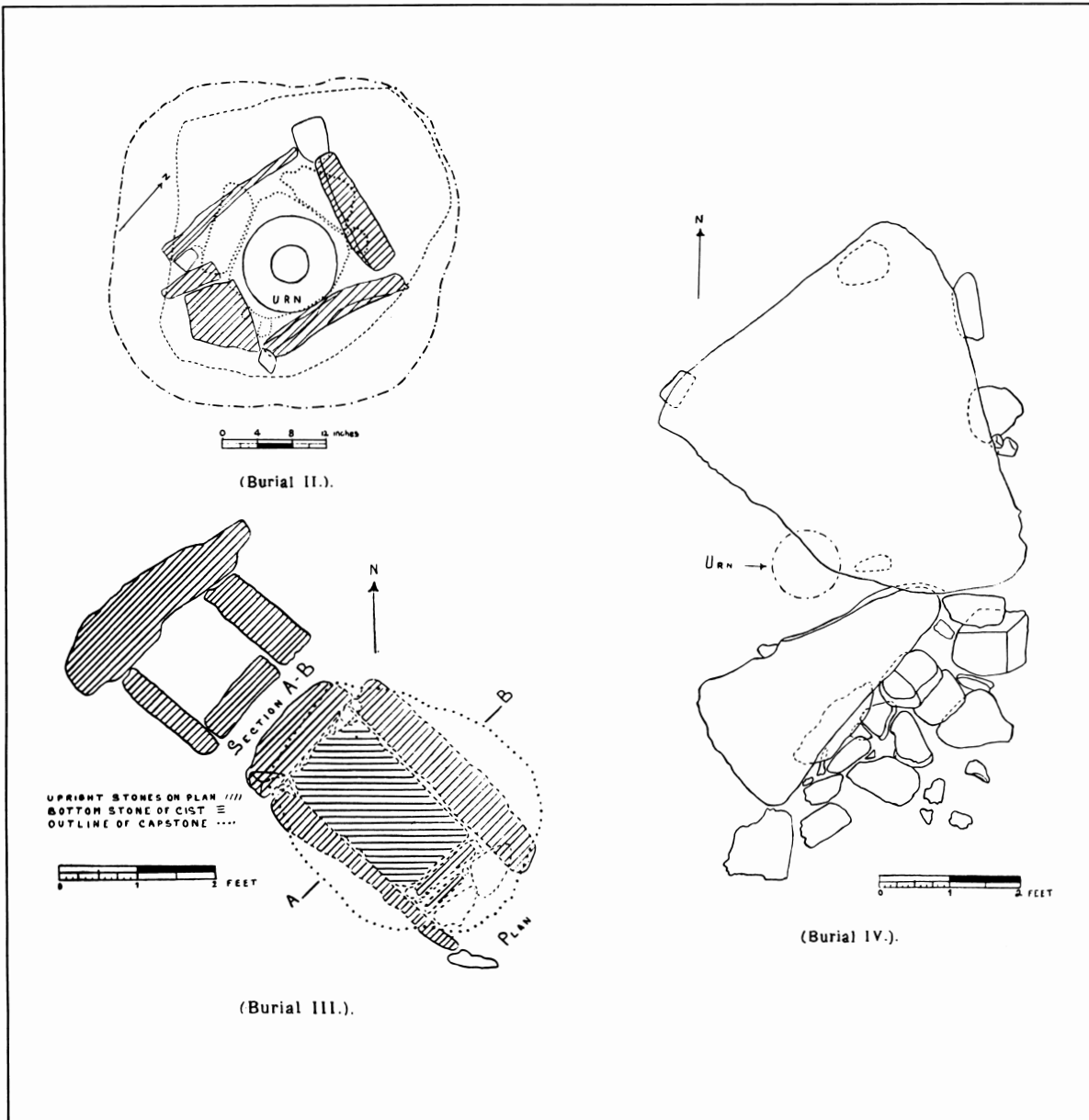


Fig. 66. Cush, Co. Limerick: burials II, III and IV of flat cemetery (after S. P. Ó Ríordáin).

CUSH, Co. Limerick. Fig. 67. OS 48
The remains of a short rectangular, slab-built cist which measured about 1m by 60cm consisted mainly of side slabs and a paved floor, its long axis lay NW-SE. It contained cremated bones, some contained in two vases lying on their sides (probably due to disturbance) and some lying on the floor of the cist, the bones were those of a young adult and a child of 2-3 years. One vase lay at the SE end of the grave, the other near its NW corner. *PRIA* 45 C (1939-40), 124, 165, 172.

CUSH, Co. Limerick. Fig. 68. OS 48
Tumulus 1: the disturbed remains of a roughly circular cemetery mound measured approximately 11m in diameter and 90cm in height. Six stones on its north-western circumference may have been the remains of kerb. Traces of five burials were found: 1. A long cist constructed of nine slabs, its capstone possibly removed during recent disturbances, measured internally 1.9m in length and 61cm in width. Its long axis lay E-W and its floor was paved. No bones were found but a few tiny

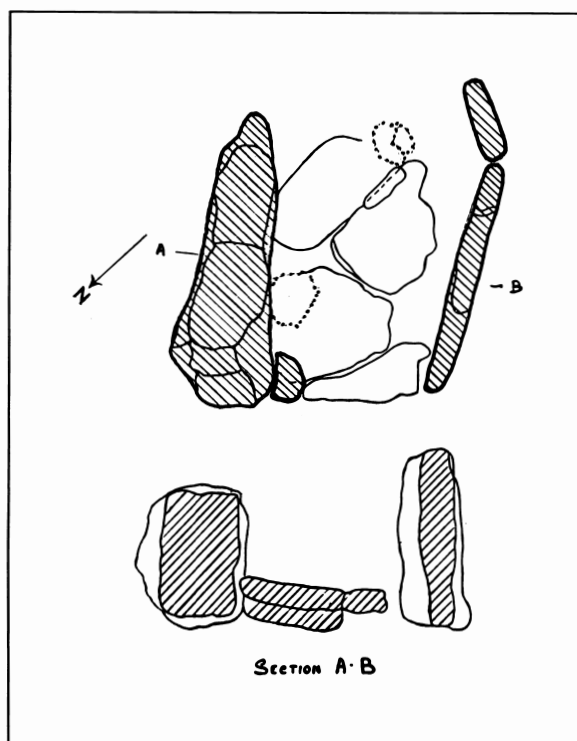


Fig. 67. Cush, Co. Limerick (after S. P. Ó Ríordáin).

fragments of what was considered to be tooth enamel were noted; a pot with bowl affinities lay on its side near the southern side of the cist. The cist had apparently been placed in a pit in the old ground surface. 2-4. Three separate, small deposits of unidentifiable cremated bone were found in and on a stoney layer in the mound. They all lay in the SE quadrant. 5. Some ten years before the mound was excavated, disturbance revealed an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 51) buried near the centre of the mound about 30cm under the surface. It had apparently been inverted in a pit and contained the cremated bones of a young adult. Traces of a ditch around portions of the mound inside the kerb were thought to be connected with this burial.

An 'arc' of stones found beneath the mound may be a questionable feature. Two other tumuli excavated at Cush were, unlike Tumulus 1, surrounded by ditches and measured about 14m and 16m in overall diameter respectively and about 1.8m in height. Both covered what appeared to be the remains of cremation pyres and cremated bones, accompanied in one instance by a small bone plaque ornamented with dot and circle ornament considered to be of Iron Age or later date. *PRIA* 45 C (1939-40), 133, 169, 173.

CUSH, Co. Limerick. Fig. 69. OS 48
Two cordoned urn burials found (Kavanagh 29-30): 1. A pit contained an inverted urn; in the urn were cremated bones and some charcoal fragments (*Corylus*); a bronze razor was found at the bottom of the pit and a flint fabricator rested against the outside of the urn 9.5cm above the rim. 2. 1.45m NE of no. 1 another urn was found standing mouth upwards in a pit; this burial had suffered considerable disturbance, the urn contained cremated bone and fragments of burnt bones and a bronze razor were found some 20cm from the vessel. Two unclassifiable pot-sherds were also found nearby in disturbed soil. *NMAJ* 10 (1967), 103.

DUNTRYLEAGUE, Co. Limerick. OS 41/49
A small, ill-recorded flat cemetery was discovered in 1682 and seems to have comprised at least two cist graves and perhaps fifteen urn burials. See Part 1, p. 1. Waddell (in Ó Corráin (ed.), *Irish Antiquity* (1981), 163).

GLENAREE, Co. Limerick. OS 49
Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 31) inverted on a flat stone in a pit; the urn contained cremated bones and a bronze razor. *NMAJ* 1 (1936), 34.

KNOCKADEA, Co. Limerick. OS 57
In 1916 'a small vault' covered by two slabs and measuring approximately 90 by 60cm was found in a ploughed field, it contained fragments of 'dried bones', possibly cremated. About 2m away an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 52) was found apparently in a pit, it was inverted and contained cremated bones; its base was apparently covered by a stone slab. Two further burials were found in the same field in 1929 but few details are available. A cist described as 'small and lined by rather small flagstones' was found to contain a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 32) inverted over a small deposit of cremated bones; it was apparently accompanied by a smaller pot. Sherds of a third vessel, an urn of plain coarse ware, are preserved and these may have come from another cist. Power has referred to 'five or seven burial urns found in a small field': a flat cemetery (?). *JRSAI* 61 (1931), 55; 100 (1970), 123. Power, *Críchad an Chaoilli. Being the topography of Ancient Fermoy* (1932), 97.

LISSARD, Co. Limerick. Fig. 70. OS 41/49
A vase urn was inverted on the old ground surface at the centre of a low earthen mound surrounded

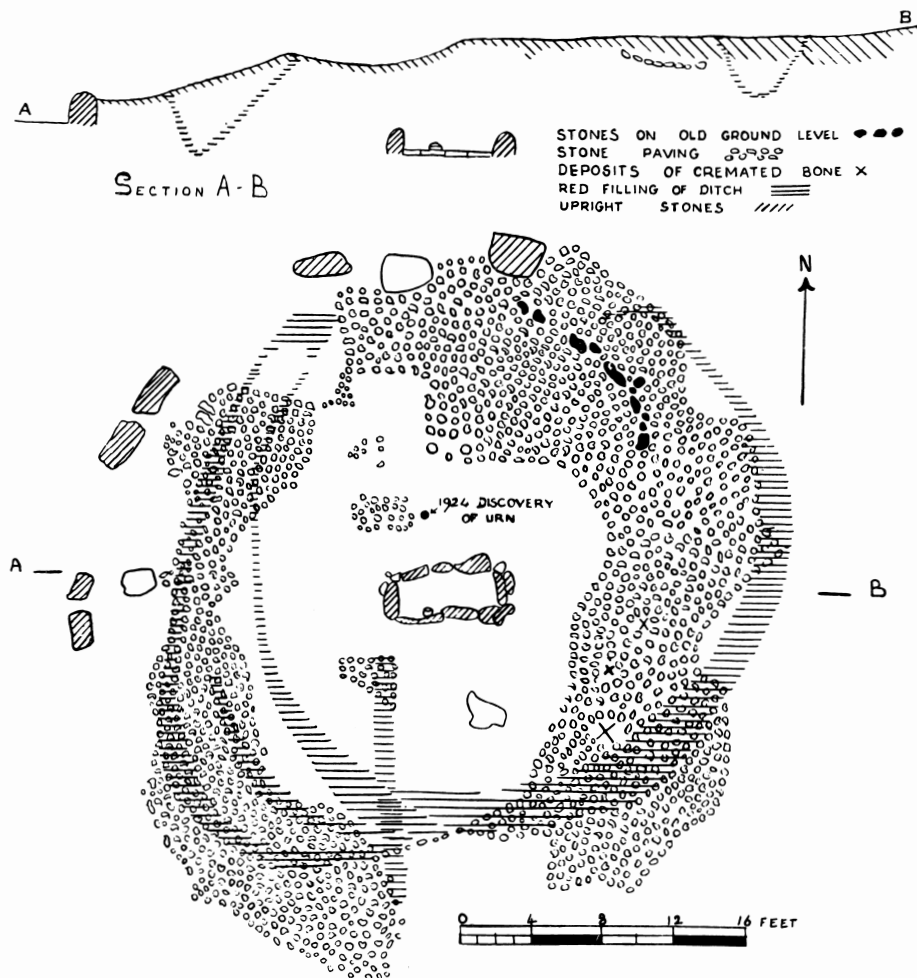


Fig. 68. Cush, Co. Limerick: Tumulus I (after S. P. Ó Ríordáin).

Fig. 69. Cush, Co. Limerick
(after Rynne and O'Sullivan).

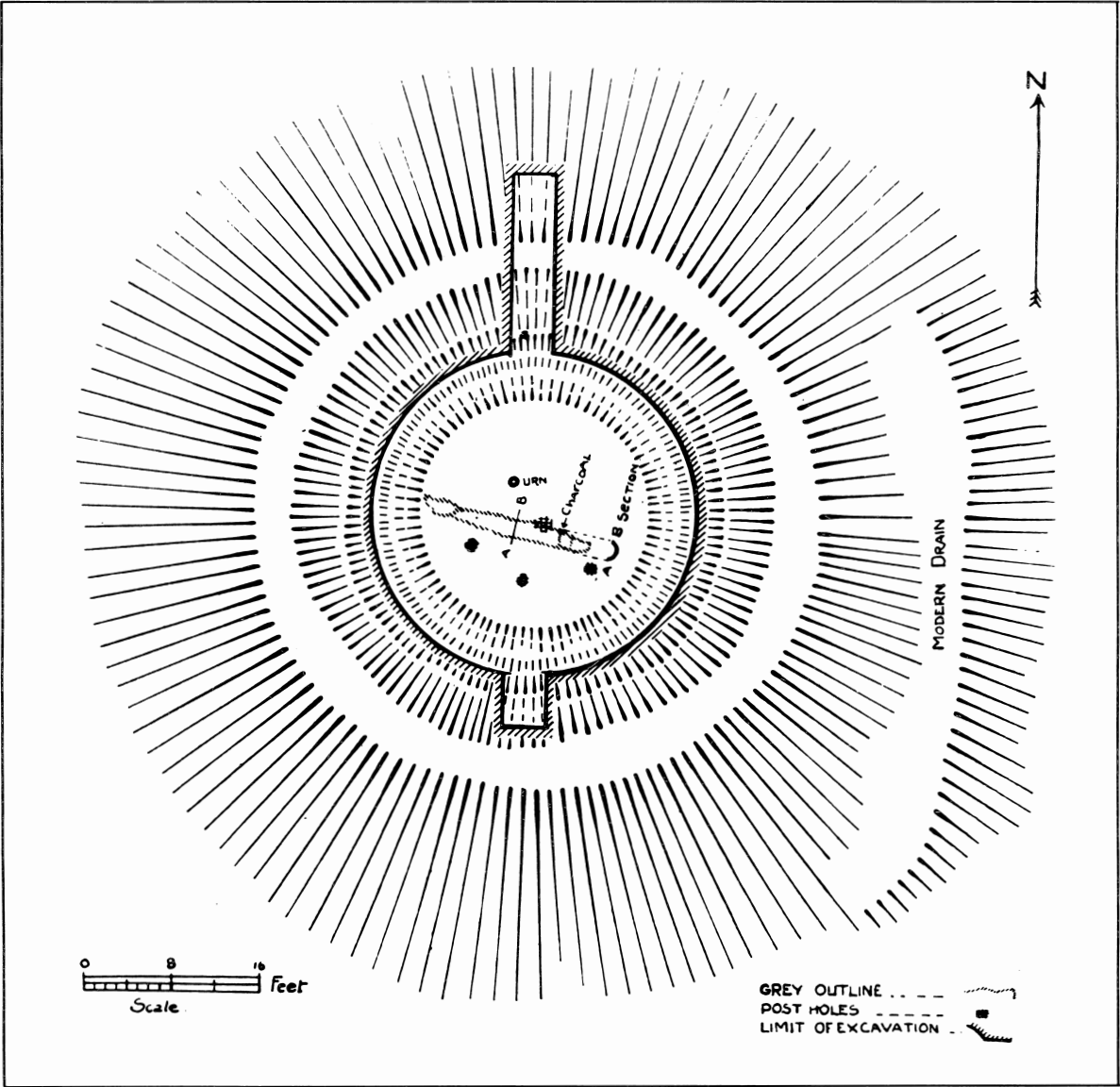
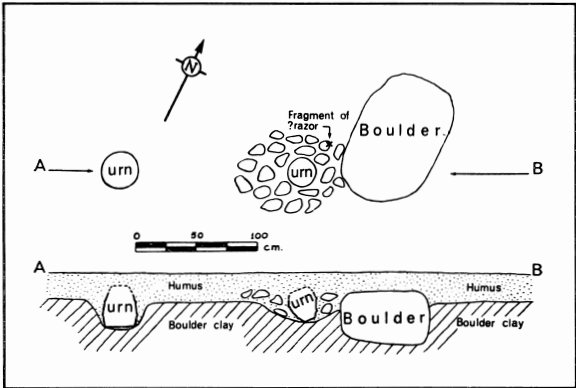


Fig. 70. Lissard, Co. Limerick (after S. P. Ó Ríordáin).

by a ditch and bank; the urn contained a little cremated bone (little survived, perhaps due to acid soil conditions). Other Bronze Age(?) ring-ditches in the area. *JRSAI* 66 (1936), 173.

LOUGH GUR, Co. Limerick. OS 32
A short rectangular cist at the centre of Circle J contained the disturbed, unburnt remains of two individuals. *PRIA* 30 C (1912), 297. M. J. and C. O'Kelly, *Illustrated Guide to Lough Gur* (1978), 30.

LOUGH GUR, Co. Limerick. OS 32
Circle P: a flat-topped cairn with kerb (or a stone circle later filled with earth and stones) contained two urn burials: 1. Lower part of a plain bucket-shaped urn found with cremated bones (no details available). 2. An urn burial and cremation (no details): it apparently disturbed no. 1. Both urns were found 'under the original ground surface'. *PPS* 2 (1936), 220. *NMAJ* 1 (1937), 82. *PRIA* 56 C (1954), 458.

MORENANE, Co. Limerick. OS 30
A sub-rectangular cist, about 114 by 84 by 68cm deep, contained the skeleton (possibly crouched) of a young adult male. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 123. *PRIA* 74 C (1974), 304, fn. 10. Ryan in Ó Corráin (ed.), *Irish Antiquity* (1981), 145.

MOUNT COOTE, Co. Limerick. OS 48
In the course of gravel digging near Foley's Cross in 1849, workmen found at a depth of 2m 'great flat rock slabs (*sic*) of stone resting upon other stones ... On opening this work, they found an urn, about the size of what we call a large flower pot, which might hold two quarts'; it contained burnt bones and was destroyed. Two other urns were later found and not preserved. *J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* 5 (1849–50), 154. (Reference from P. Wallace).

NEWTOWN, Co. Limerick. OS 23
Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 53) possibly found inverted in a pit, and containing the cremated bones of a child 3–5 years old.

OLDABBEY, Co. Limerick. OS 19
A stone cist found in the 1850s contained a 'clay dish and a skeleton in crouching position'. *JRSAI* 34 (1904), 52.

MOYDOW GLEBE, Co. Longford. OS 19
A double or segmented cist, unequally divided into compartments by a long slab, was covered by a capstone which measured 1.5m by 1.2m. Each compartment contained a crouched skeleton, a small skeleton (perhaps a child?) was found in the smaller of the two. Found 1935; no further details. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 123.

Cairn A, AGHNASKEAGH, Co. Louth. Fig. 71. OS 4

Cemetery mound: six cists were found in an oval cairn W and SW of a portal tomb: 1. Short rectangular cist 61 by 46cm; 36cm of fill contained some cremated bone; three small vessels (one related to the Bowl class) stood on the roughly paved floor on S, NW and E sides of the grave. Traces of a deposit of blackberries were found under one of the floor slabs. 2. Cist (?): no end or capstones, possibly subsidiary to no. 1: contained cremated bone. 3. Disturbed cist: remains of a small pot (unclassifiable) recovered. 4. Irregularly shaped cist: lower fill contained cremated bone, a burnt flint and a quartz pebble. 5. Sub-rectangular cist – disturbed, no primary finds. 6. Disturbed sub-rectangular cist – no finds. *CLAJ* 8 (1933–6), 235.

CARRICKEDMOND Co. Louth. OS 4
The exploration, in the 18th century, of a stone circle (possibly the remains of a barrow with kerb?) revealed three slab-built cist graves, each with floor-slab and capstone. They were reportedly placed in a triangular arrangement some 45cm apart. Two or three 'urns', burnt bones, and fragments of charcoal were found; one of the vessels was calculated to have had a rim diameter of approximately 15cm. Wright, *Louthiana* 3 (1748), 8, pl. II. *CLAJ* 7 (1929–32), 332.

COLLON, Co. Louth. Fig. 72. OS 20
Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 54) found inverted in a pit and containing cremated bones and some charcoal fragments (hazel). *CLAJ* 14 (1958), 91.

GORTEEN, Co. Louth. OS 6
Two cordoned urns (Kavanagh 33–34; one a collared urn according to Longworth 1984, no. 2235) found in a pit with cremated bone of an adult or adults. No precise details. *CLAJ* 6 (1925–28), 257.

HILL OF RATH, Co. Louth. OS 24
A flat cemetery? According to one report 150–200

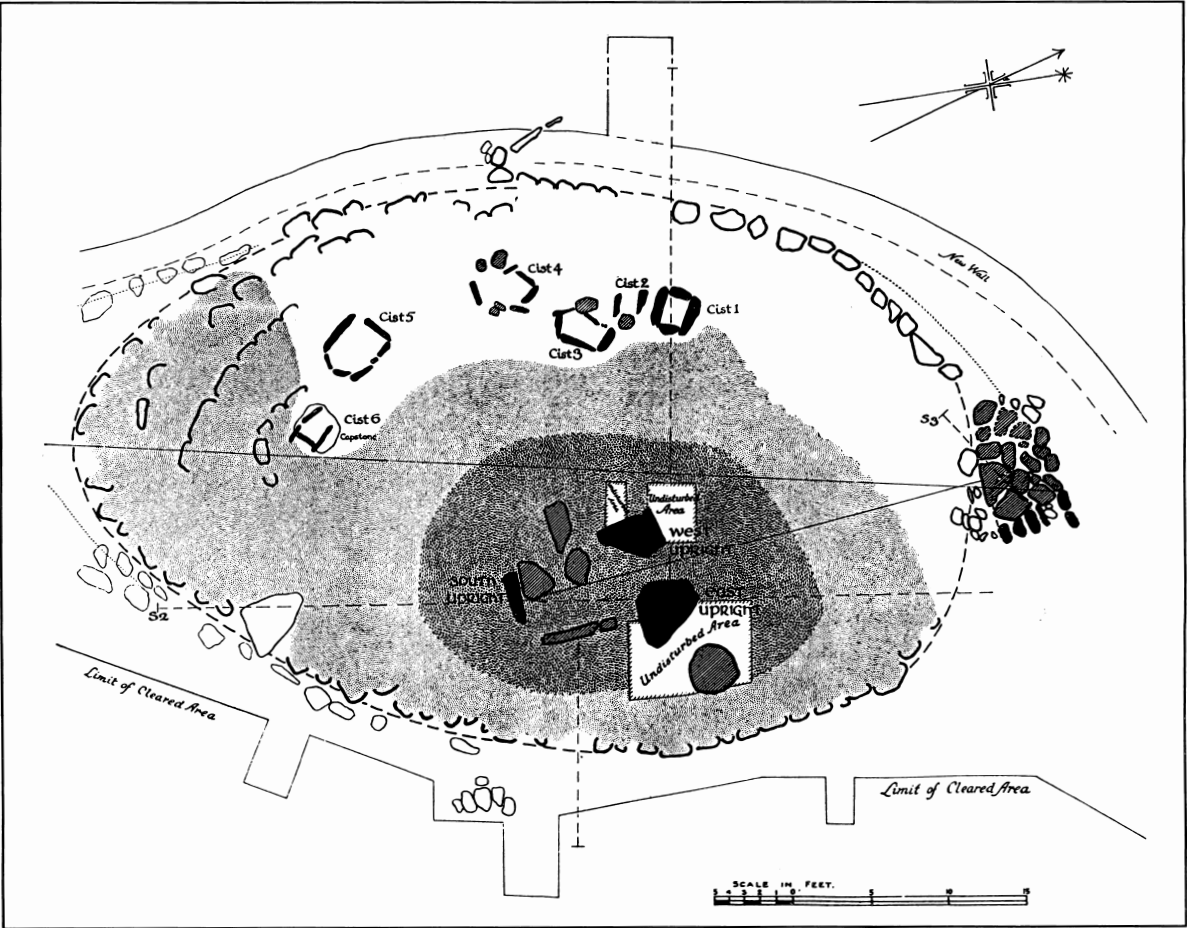


Fig. 71. Aghnaskcagh, Co. Louth (after Evans).

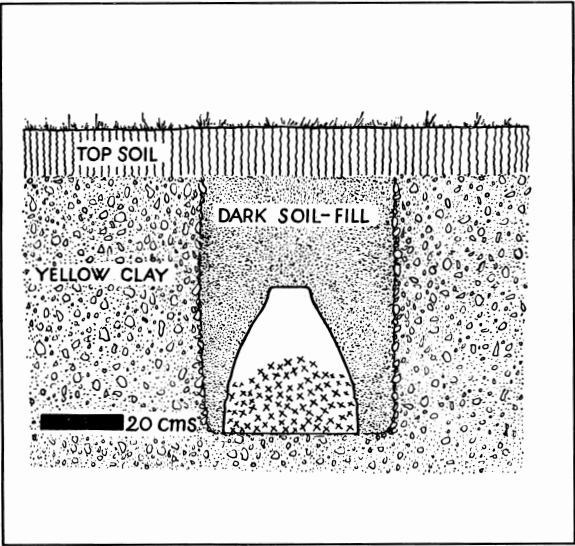


Fig. 72. Collon, Co. Louth (after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

urns were discovered in 1841 in the course of removing earth from the brow of this hill. The site is very vaguely described: an ‘interesting rath or tumulus’ occupied the western slope of the hill; also mentioned is a ‘breastwork’ of earth of inconsiderable elevation which may have enclosed an area of five or six acres; this earthwork apparently enclosed the rath or tumulus.

The urns are described as being ‘of various sizes, almost all placed in an inverted position, and covering, each of them, a considerable quantity of human bones’; they were ‘found at a depth of four to five feet beneath the original surface, resting upon the hill on gravelly subsoil’. Other investigations on an undisturbed part of the hill produced ‘four or five, or more urns’, which were placed, apparently without any regularity, about two or three feet apart, and were ‘imbedded in yellow clay, without any flags or other stones to protect them’.

It is not stated where these burials were found in relation to the 'rath or tumulus'; but their occurrence on the gravelly subsoil might suggest the existence of a flat cemetery rather than a cemetery mound. The small number of urns actually recovered from the hill by the antiquarian J. Huband Smith might suggest that the hearsay figure of 150–200 urns, which he reported, was greatly exaggerated.

Two cordoned urns are preserved from this site, a third possibly comes from here (Kavanagh 37–39). One encrusted urn (Kavanagh 55) is also said to have come from the cemetery. Two other urns claimed to have come from this site are best considered unprovenanced (one cordoned – Kavanagh 61 – and one encrusted urn – Kavanagh 56). One of the two cordoned urns contained a perforated bone needle, a bronze razor, a perforated whetstone, a flat polished stone and a flint thumb-scraper. *PRIA* 2 (1840–44), 259. Wilde (1857), 150, 190, 192. *CLAJ* 7 (1929), 5.

KILLINEER, Co. Louth.

OS 21

An apparently secondary pit burial in a tumulus contained a cordoned urn and cremated bones; one sherd and a few bone fragments preserved. No precise details (Kavanagh 35). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 152.

MAYNE, Co. Louth.

OS 19/22

'In the year 1806, some labourers were employed by Mr. P. Maguire, planting potatoes in a field at Mayne, a neat farm belonging to that gentleman, contiguous to the Colpa, on the north shore; when several urns of rude pottery were turned up from a depth of about eighteen inches below the surface. These urns were placed with the mouth underneath and were filled with calcined human bones, intermixed with bits of copper gilt; and some contained golden fibulae. One of the urns so found was deposited at the time with the Royal Irish Academy' (not traced). By the Colpa is meant the River Boyne, and Reid regards the urn burials as evidence of a battle fought near its mouth. Reid, *Travels in Ireland in the year 1822*, (1823), p. 7, fn.

MONASTERBOICE, Co. Louth.

OS 21

A small rectangular cist contained a sherd of a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 36), and a narrow-bladed axehead of Tieve bulliagh porcellanite. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 123.

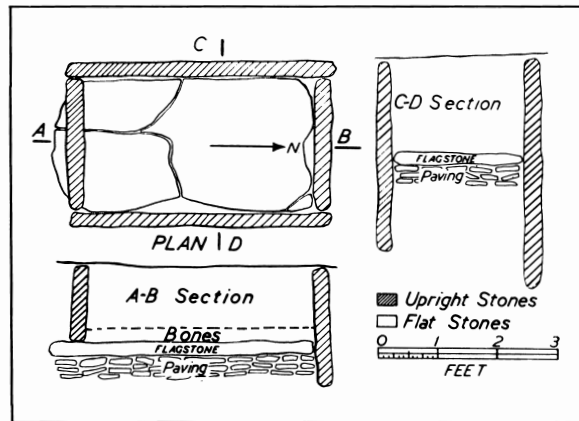


Fig. 73. Aghlahard, Co. Mayo (after J. Raftery).

NEWTOWN, Knockbridge, Co. Louth.

OS 6/11

A cist measuring about 90cm across consisted of a capstone resting on seven upright stones in a rough circle. A crouched skeleton lay on its right side on the single floor slab. *CLAJ* 13 (1956), 451.

OAKTATE, Co. Louth.

OS 11

A round cairn measuring approximately 14.5m in diameter and 90cm in height covered a short rectangular cist. Its long axis lay NW–SE and it measured 64 by 25 by 23cm deep, it was roofed by two slabs allegedly 'set together almost like the roof of a house', an arrangement which could conceivably have been caused by disturbance. It contained two vases, a sherd of another, and sherds of a vase urn. No bones were noted. *CLAJ* 6 (1925–28), 72.

SMARMORE, Co. Louth.

OS 20

A rock-cut pit covered by a stone slab contained a cordoned urn and cremated bone (Kavanagh 40). *CLAJ* 12 (1949), 10.

TANKARDSROCK, Co. Louth.

OS 6

Short rectangular cist 61 by 35 by 46cm with floor-slab, long axis approx. E–W. Contained a bowl and slightly cremated, reportedly comminuted, bone. *CLAJ* 2 (1908–11), 325. *Praehist. Zeits.* 3 (1911), 185.

AGHALAHARD, Co. Mayo.

Fig. 73.

OS 120

A disturbed, short-rectangular, slab-built cist measured 117 by 71cm and its long axis lay N–S; it had a floor-slab which in turn rested on a rough paving. On the floor-slab, beneath a fill of black earth, lay a quantity of ox bones and two snail shells; with the

bones were found a few pieces of charcoal and portions of two polished stone axe-heads. No human remains were found. *JRSAI* 74 (1944), 172.

BALLINCHALLA, Co. Mayo. Fig. 74.(grave 3).

OS 117

A series of graves discovered in an esker ridge from approximately 1933 to 1944 apparently constituted a flat cemetery. Some nine graves were found: 1. A long slab-built cist measuring approx. 1.5m in length had a single floor-slab and capstone, its long axis lay E-W and it contained an extended skeleton, head to W. 2. A slab-built cist of rectangular plan measured, according to the records of the National Museum of Ireland, about 1.4m in length and 75cm in width. Its long axis lay E-W and a pair of cross-slabs divided it into three compartments; it had a single floor-slab and was roofed by a capstone. Two of the compartments contained cremated bones (the two easternmost in one account, the two end compartments in another). This grave lay about 6m from no. 3 below. 3. A short, sub-rectangular, slab-built cist with floor-slab and capstone measured approximately 40cm in length, 30cm in average width and 30cm in depth; its long axis lay roughly E-W. In the grave was an inverted vase urn containing the cremated bones of an infant a few months old. 4. A short rectangular slab-built cist was divided into two compartments by a transverse slab, it was roofed with a capstone and its long axis lay roughly NE-SW. The NE compartment contained a lidded vase, found mouth upwards, accompanying cremated bones. The other compartment contained a vase, also mouth upwards and accompanying a cremation. 5. A short rectangular slab-built cist, long axis NE-SW, contained a vase, cremated bones, and what was described as a 'fragment of bronze wire' which was not preserved. 6. A short rectangular slab-built cist, long axis NE-SW, contained cremated bones and a plano-convex flint knife: these were reportedly in a bowl-shaped 'grass container'. 7. A short rectangular slab-built cist, long axis NE-SW, divided into two compartments by a transverse slab. It contained 'no grave goods'. 8. What may have been a short sub-rectangular pit contained a deposit of cremated bones. 9. A small rectangular slab-built cist with cobbled floor and capstone, its long axis NE-SW, contained cremated bones. *PRIA* 46 C (1940-41), 304. *JGAHS* 20 (1942-43), 89; 21 (1944-45), 100. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 94, 124.

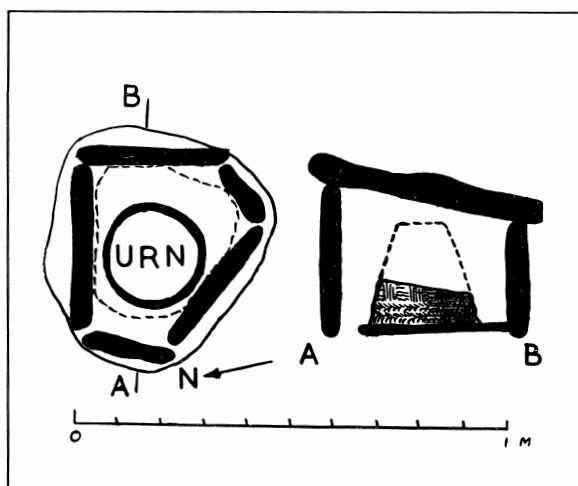


Fig. 74. Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo (after J. Raftery).

BALLYVICMAHA, Co. Mayo.

OS 38

A short sub-rectangular cist found in an esker ridge measured approximately 60 by 48cm internally; its long axis lay N-S and the southern end was broader than the other. On the floor-slab were found the remains of a vase and cremated bones. *JRSAI* 94 (1964), 95; 100 (1970), 124.

BURREN, Co. Mayo.

OS 100

A circular tumulus was excavated in 1934; it measured approximately 14m in diameter and 1.5m in height, it was surrounded by a ditch about 1m wide and 20cm deep (measurements before excavation). A few ounces of cremated bone were found beneath the turf on the E side of the mound. A layer of carbonised wood was found slightly south of centre running SW-NE, it varied in thickness from 2.5cm to 20cm. Two deposits of cremated bone were apparently found on this layer of charcoal which apparently rested on a layer of red clay separated from the old ground surface by a layer of fine sand. The finds, preserved in the National Museum, comprise an iron loop or staple found in the NE quadrant about 46cm from the surface, three small fragments of (?burnt) bronze (one possibly part of a bronze razor) and a smooth slender piece of stone 11.5cm long, 1.7cm wide, of oval cross-section, bluntly pointed at both ends. *NMI. Ant. Jour.* 15 (1935), 207 (note). *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 82 (note).

CARRICKANASS, Co. Mayo.

OS 14

A short rectangular slab-built cist found in 1937

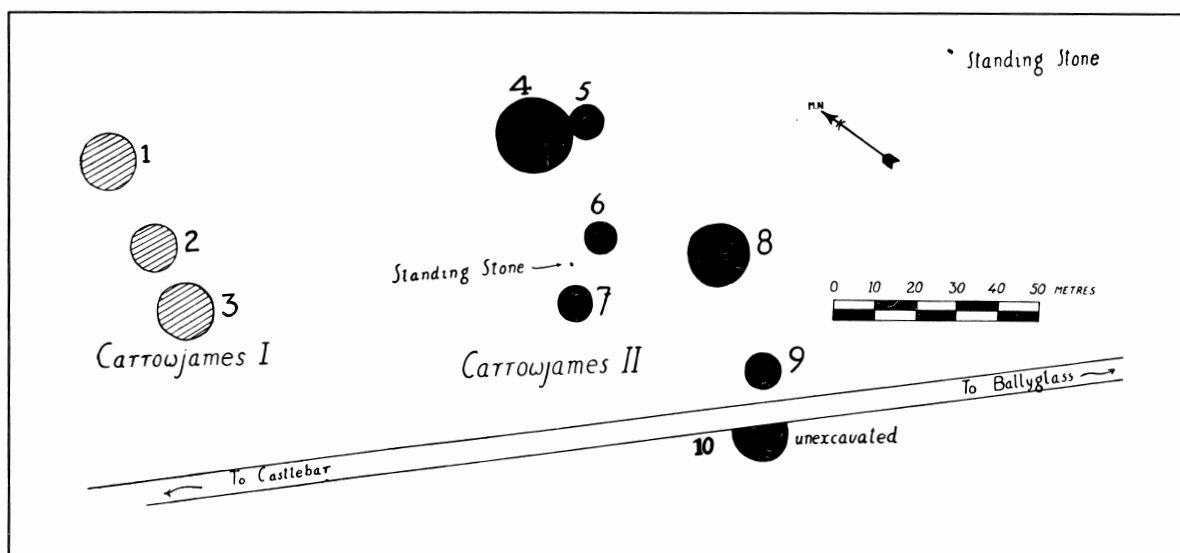


Fig. 75. Carrowjames, Co. Mayo: tumulus cemetery (after J. Raftery).

had a roughly cobbled floor, it measured internally 66 by 36cm; 33cm in depth; its long axis lay NE-SW. It contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 124.

CARROWJAMES, Co. Mayo. Fig. 75. OS 90 Tumulus cemetery: three low mounds ('Carrowjames I') lay approximately 90m NW of a group of seven mounds ('Carrowjames II'), the latter group was dated to the Iron Age by the excavator. All were situated on marshy land. The three tumuli of Carrowjames I were of similar form and construction: each a low, round mound with an encircling ditch and made up of upcast from the ditches and of layers of sods with a core of large loose stones. Tumulus 1 averaged 14.5m in overall diameter; its maximum height was 50cm, and its ditch was 1.25 to 2.2m wide and averaged 30cm in depth. At the centre of the mound a carefully dug, slab-covered, pit contained the cremated bones of an adult and a child, accompanied by a bronze razor. A pit near the centre, dug when the mound had been half-erected, contained the cremated bones of an adult, possibly female. In the south-eastern quadrant the scattered cremation of an infant was associated with four small nondescript bronze fragments. Tumulus 2 was similar in size to 1. At the centre an oval pit had been dug when the mound was half-erected; it contained an inverted cordoned urn (Kavanagh 41); the urn contained the cremated bones of an adult and a bronze razor; the pit had been roughly covered by three flat slabs. A second

cremation, representing one individual, had been scattered over a large area of the south-eastern quadrant. Tumulus 3 was similar in size to 1 and 2. A circular pit at the centre contained an inverted cordoned urn (Kavanagh 42) with the cremated bones of one individual accompanied by a razor. A second cremation had been placed in the same pit around and above the urn. A third cremation, that of an adolescent, had been scattered through the humus of part of the south-eastern quadrant.

Six of the seven mounds of Carrowjames II were excavated. Four of these (Tumuli 5, 6, 7 and 9) were of similar form to those of Carrowjames I, though smaller in size (averaging only 7.5m in overall diameter). Three (Tumuli 6, 7 and 9) contained a centrally placed cremation; that in Tumulus 6 was enclosed by a U-shaped setting of stones. (Tumulus 10 was not excavated, Tumulus 5 yielded only a deposit of cremated bone in the silt of the ditch). The similarity of form and the presence in one of a U-shaped setting of stones, a feature recorded at Kilmore, Co. Westmeath, and Corrower, Co. Mayo (*infra*), suggest that these four tumuli might be Bronze Age in date. (An iron fragment from Tumulus 7 was found, according to its museum label, at a depth of a few cm in the humus; this is not recorded in the excavation report.)

The remaining two tumuli, nos. 4 and 8, were the largest of all, being 21 and 25m in overall diameter, they were further distinguished by a bank outside the ditch and may be dated to the

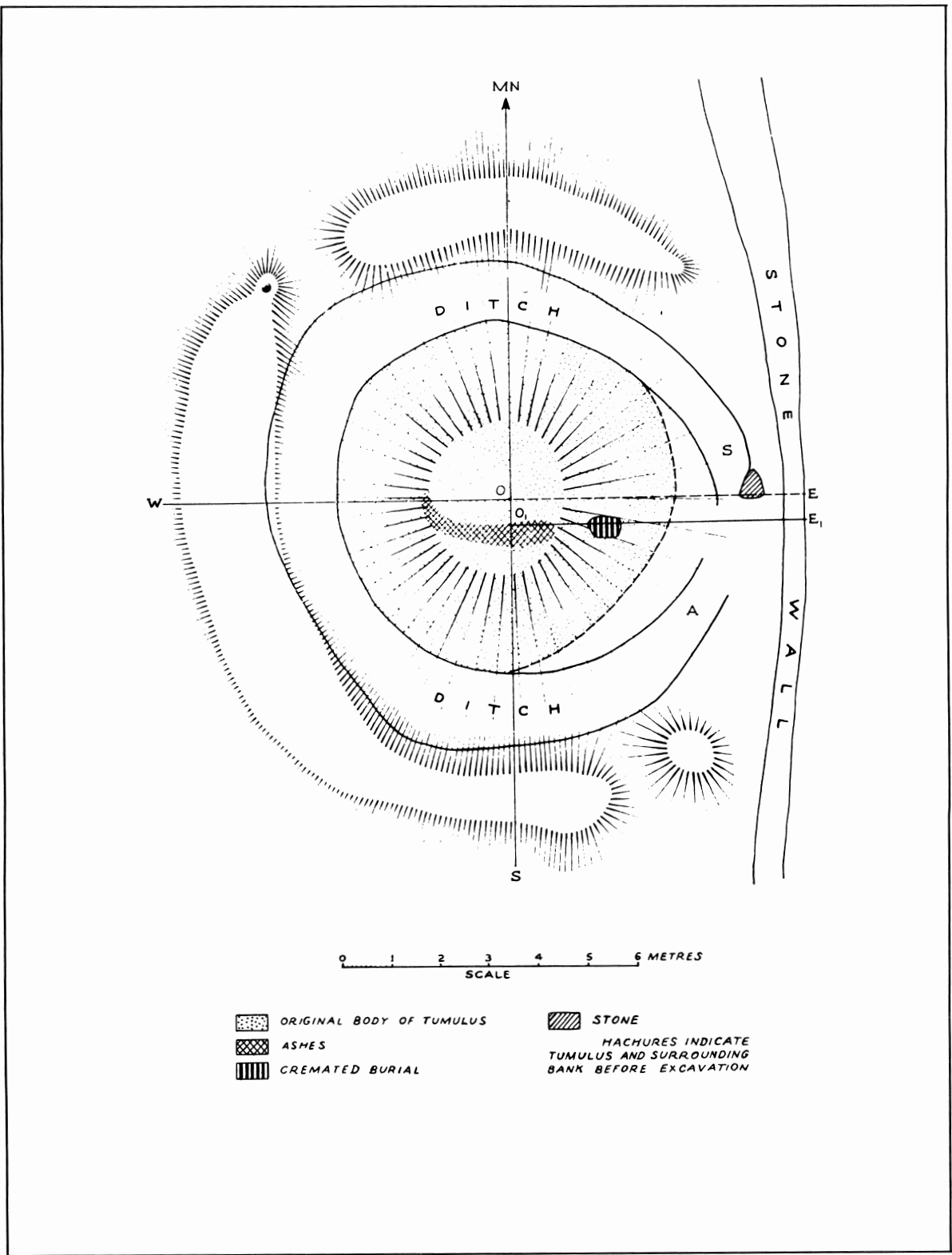


Fig. 76. Carrowlisdoonaun, Co. Mayo (after Hencken).

Iron Age. An urn burial was found *beneath* the bank of Tumulus 4. Unfortunately this burial is inadequately described in the report; the urn which was 40cm high lay on its side and contained a small quantity of cremated bone. *JGHAS* 18 (1938-9), 157; 19 (1940-41), 16.

CARROWLISDOOAUN, Co. Mayo. Fig. 76.

OS 100

A small tumulus 8.5m in diameter and 1.4m high was excavated in 1934. It was surrounded by a ditch averaging 1.2m wide and 40 to 50cm deep, outside this ditch there was a low bank 2.2m to 3.2m wide. The overall diameter was 14.5m. Beneath the mound, on the old ground surface near the centre, traces of fire and ashes were found. The only burial was a small deposit of cremated bone found 15 to 30cm below the surface on the eastern side of the mound. The bones, which were those of an adult, and possibly an infant, were scattered over an area 40 by 70cm and partly covered by a small slab. A number of flint scrapers were found in the body of the mound. Finds from the ditch included a flat bronze axe, some tiny pot sherds (unclassifiable), and a flint point. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 75.

CARROWLISDOOAUN, Co. Mayo.

OS 100

A cist found in 1932 contained a pottery vessel and a bronze or copper object, both of which were not preserved. The cist was variously described as having been discovered in a sand-quarry or a cairn and the piece of copper or bronze was described as measuring about 10cm square and about 4mm thick. A tumulus covering a cist containing a cinerary urn and burnt bones was found in this area c. 1926 and destroyed (see Stuckeen *td.*) *JGAHS* 16 (1934), 61. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 82.

CARROWLISDOOAUN, Co. Mayo.

OS 100

A short rectangular cist first discovered c. 1853 was examined in 1933. It was slab-built with capstone and measured 104 by 53cm, and 51cm in depth; its long axis lay roughly E-W. The grave contained the remains of a vase and the unburnt bones of the skeleton of an adult, considered to have lain in a crouched position. *JGAHS* 15 (1931-3), 161; 16 (1934-35), 57. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 81.

CARROWNACON, Co. Mayo.

Fig. 77. OS 100

Two short cists were excavated in 1933. The larger cist was slab-built and of sub-rectangular plan, narrower at its western end; it was 50cm deep. It

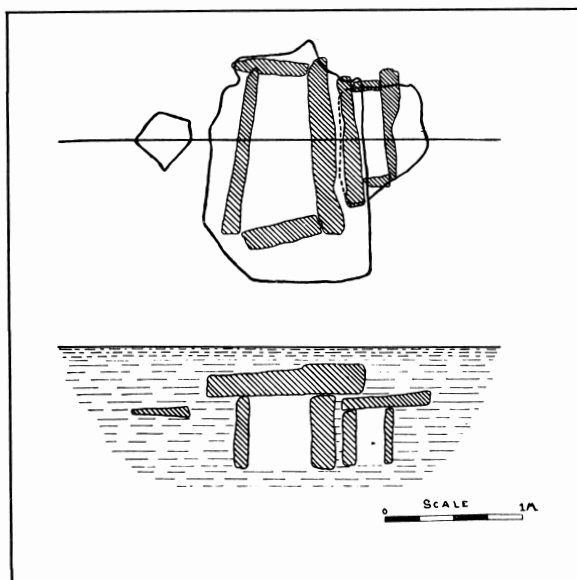


Fig. 77. Carrownacon, Co. Mayo (after Movius).

measured 1.03m in length and averaged 48cm in width. It was covered by a large capstone. On the gravel floor were two burials, one unburnt and one cremated. The skeleton was in complete confusion but had possibly been crouched; it was considered to have been disturbed by the intrusion of the cremated bones, which, though scattered throughout the grave, were concentrated at the eastern end. The last traces of two decayed pottery vessels were noted. Immediately to the north of the large cist, and partly covered by its capstone, lay a small, narrow, rectangular cist measuring 58cm in length and 22cm in width and 40cm deep. It lay parallel to the other grave, its long axis being E-W. It was roofed with a capstone and was filled, to within 20cm of the top, with cremated bones; associated with these bones was a small perforated stone pendant. A small deposit of cremated bone was found on and under a flat slab to the south of the large cist; this deposit was unprotected. The skeletal remains in the large cist were those of an adult female; the cremated bones were those of two adults. The cremated bones found to the south were considered to belong to this burial. The cremation in the small cist also represented two individuals, one an infant, and the other an adult male. The presence of cremated bones of two individuals in both cists may indicate two double interments, but the excavator suggests, in this instance, that insufficient care was taken in recovering the bones from the pyre and that the bones of the same two individuals

were mixed together in the different graves. *JRSAI* 64 (1934), 73.

CASHEL, Co. Mayo. Fig. 78 OS 89
A cemetery mound known as 'Turnincorragh' consisted of an approximately circular earthen mound covered by a layer of large stones; it measured about 13m in diameter and 1.80m in maximum height and four large boulders at its eastern side may have been the remains of a kerb. One grave had, apparently, been destroyed when the mound was disturbed in 1954: some cremated bone and a tooth were recovered. A small short, rectangular, compartmented cist near the centre of the mound measured some 60cm in length, 30cm in width and in depth; its long axis lay SE–NW. The south-eastern compartment was empty but the other contained some cremated bones and sherds of a vase. A second cist of similar design, size and orientation was noted in the undisturbed portion of the mound. *JGAHS* 26 (1954–56), 72.

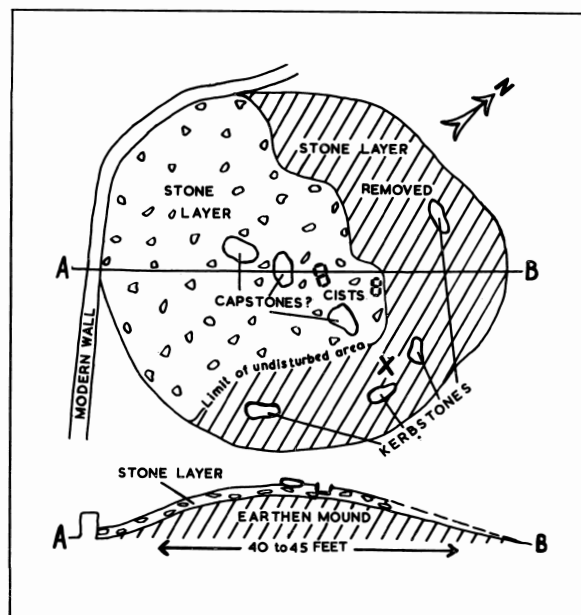


Fig. 78. Cashel, Co. Mayo (after Rynne).

CORROWER, Co. Mayo. Fig. 79. Fig. 80. OS 40
A small cemetery mound, containing nine graves, was excavated after portion of it had been disturbed. It was circular and measured 13m in diameter and about 1m in height, it was constructed mainly of brown sandy soil above which was a small cairn of stones retained by a U-shaped kerb of boulders. The majority of burials were found in the southern half of the mound; the cremated remains of at least 13 individuals are noted:
1. A small slab-built cist, reportedly square, contained the cremated remains of a child and a bowl. The bones may have been in the pot. 2. A cist contained some cremated bones of an adult, and a bowl, a few sherds of which were recovered. A few animal bones may have been included in the cremation. 3. An unprotected burial consisted of a deposit of cremated bones resting on a flat stone accompanied by a bowl. 4. A pit dug in the gravel subsoil contained cremated bone accompanied by a bowl placed mouth upwards. 5. A cist found prior to excavation; no details were recorded and no bones were noted in or outside the grave. 6. A deposit of cremated bone had been placed on three flat stones on the gravel subsoil and were protected by a small cairn of stones; the bones probably represented one individual.

7. A polygonal cist, dug into the subsoil, measured approx. 70 by 60cm internally and 35cm in depth; its floor was paved and it was roofed with a

single capstone. A saddle quern formed one of the side stones. The cist was filled to the top with fine sand through which a large quantity of cremated human bone was mixed, there was a particular concentration of bone on the west side. Three bowls had been placed mouth upwards on the floor of the grave and they were also filled with the mixture of sand and bone. The bones represented the remains of at least five persons including at least one adult and a child. Some cremated bone was found under the floor stones, one individual was represented. 8. A small shallow pit dug into the subsoil on its SW side measured 50cm in diameter and 10cm in depth. It contained the cremated bones of an adult covered with sand and a few stones. 9. A pit in the subsoil measuring 1m in diameter and 25cm deep contained the cremated bones of one adult; the pit was covered with a small pile of stones. *PRIA* 61 C (1960), 79.

CORROWER, Co. Mayo. Fig. 81. OS 40
A short rectangular slab-built cist measured 48cm by 30cm internally, and 50cm in depth; its long axis lay SE–NW. Six slabs formed the roof. It contained cremated bones. *JGAHS* 30 (1962–63), 1, 102.

Near CREEVAGH, Co. Mayo. OS 7/8/89?
The discovery of a dagger and an urn was reported to the National Museum in December 1909. No

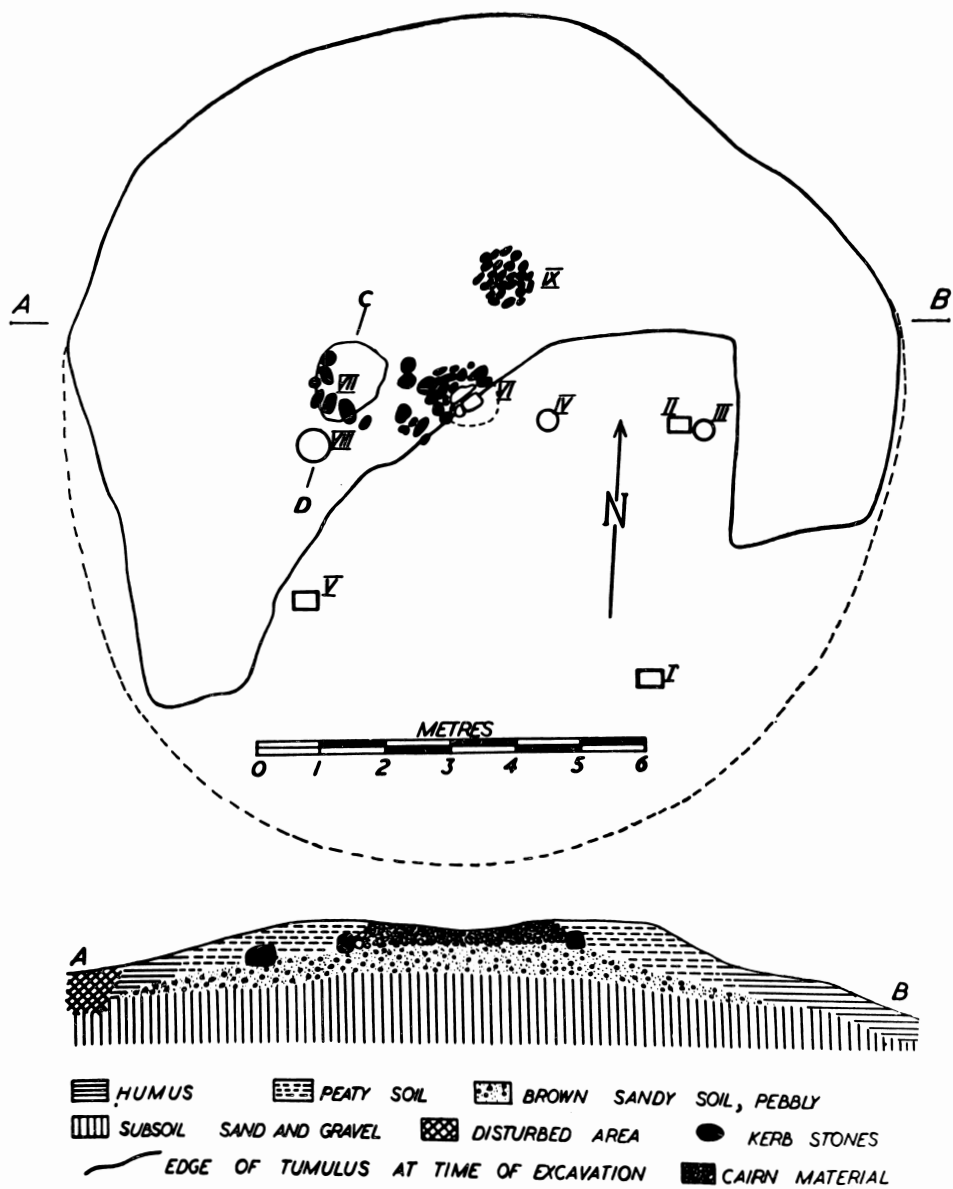


Fig. 79. Corrower, Co. Mayo (after J. Raftery).

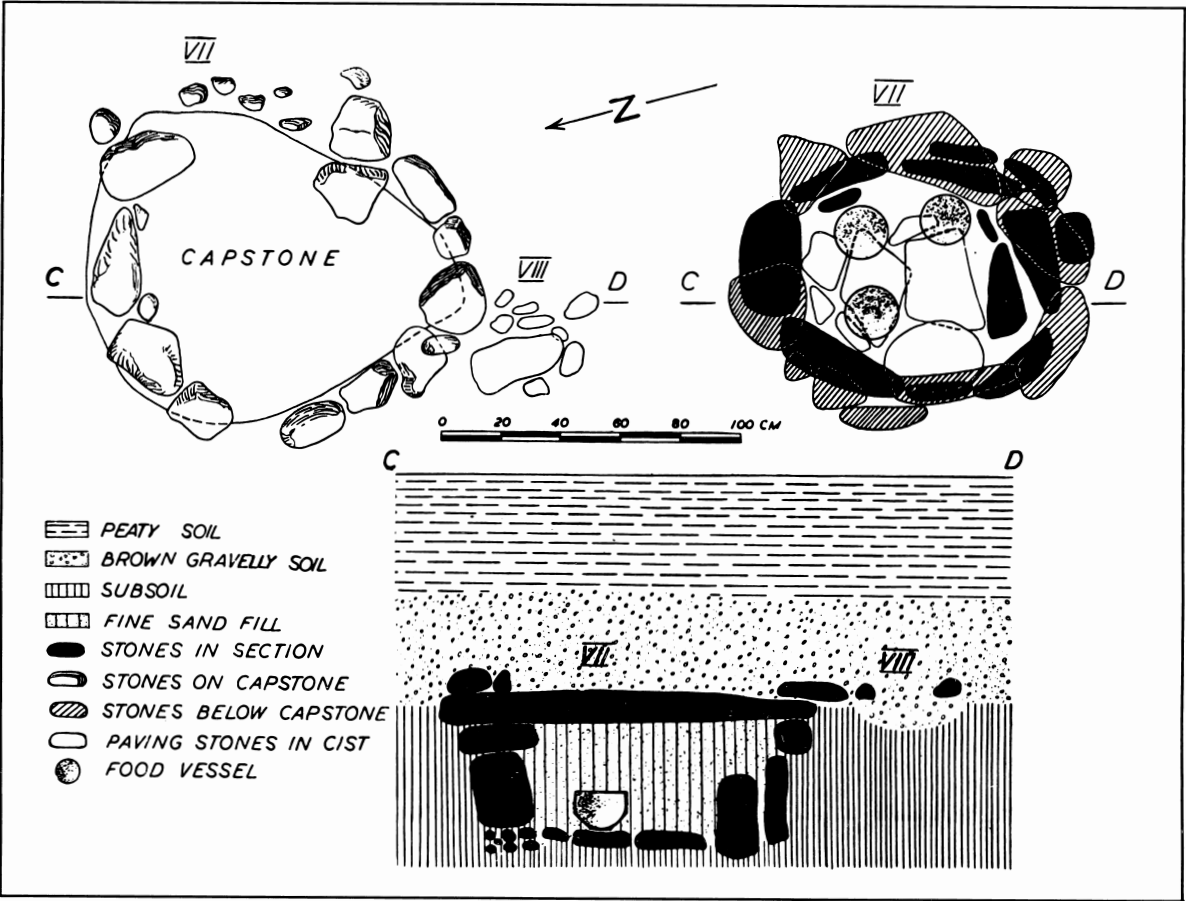


Fig. 80. Corrower, Co. Mayo: graves VII and VIII (after J. Raftery).

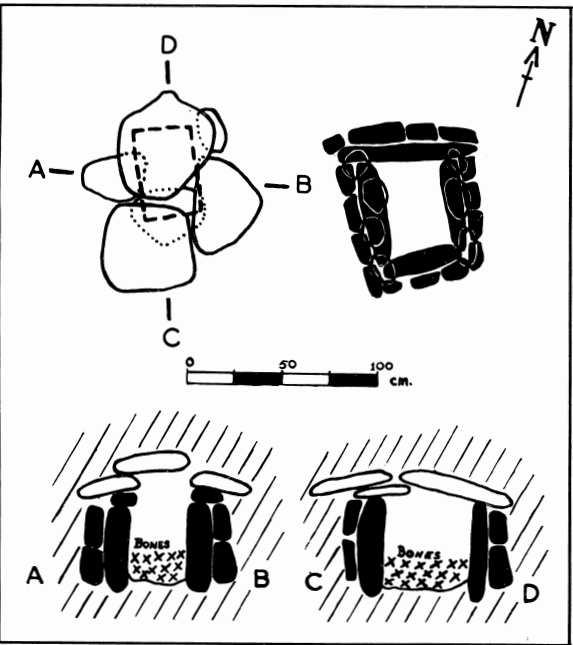


Fig. 81. Corrower, Co. Mayo (after Rynne).

further details were received. Uncertain burial. NMI.

Cuillare, Co. Mayo. Fig. 82. OS 90
A short rectangular slab-built cist found in the course of gravel digging. It measured approximately 60cm by 36cm internally and 50cm in depth; its long axis lay N-S. The grave contained the cremated bones of an adult. The capstone of the cist was in turn covered by another slab which was supported by two small boulders some 20cm high, in this space was found the fragmentary remains of the disarticulated skeleton of an adult male. *JGHAS* 17 (1936-37), 122.

Finney, Cong, Co. Mayo. OS 120
A cist found in the early 1940s is said to have contained a 'cremation and long animal teeth'. NMI.

Gortmellia, Co. Mayo. OS 10/11
A short rectangular slab-built cist, found in 1936, was described as slightly wedge-shaped internally, measuring 56 by 38cm. Its long axis lay NW-SE and it contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 125.

Kilbroney, Co. Mayo. OS 90/91
A flat cemetery, discovered early in the nineteenth century, consisted of at least ten 'urn' burials and one cist grave. No precise details are recorded. One of the urns contained a small cup and the cist is described as 'a small tomb in the form of a chest' measuring 46cm in length and 30cm wide, it contained stones and a flint arrowhead. *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. II (1827), 541. Macalister, *Ireland in Pre-Celtic Times* (1921), 336. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 125.

Kinard, Co. Mayo. OS 38
A short rectangular, slab-built cist, found in 1934 in a gravel ridge, measured internally 1.3m by 76cm, and 58cm in depth; its long axis lay roughly N-S. It was constructed of four side slabs and two end slabs, with a roughly paved floor, and it was roofed with two capstones. It contained skeletal remains; the skull as well as a vase and two portions of mussel shell were found at the S end. The vase was found in the SW corner and the skeleton may have been crouched. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 125.

Knock, Co. Mayo. OS 121
A cairn near Nymphsfield known as 'Carn an

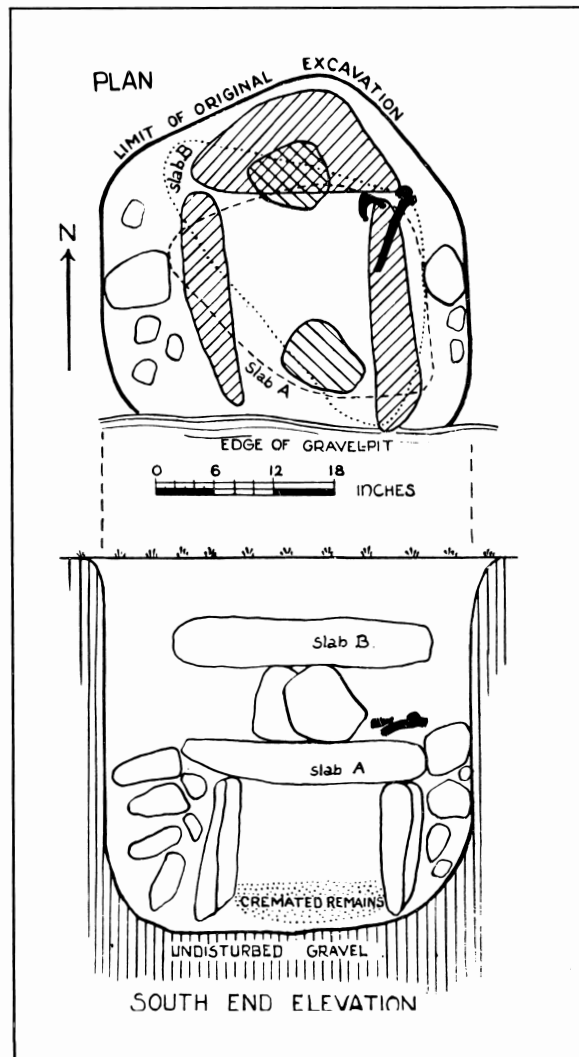


Fig. 82. Cuillare, Co. Mayo (after S. P. Ó Riordáin).

Aonfir' was investigated by Sir William Wilde about 1866. It was apparently surrounded by a kerb and measured approximately 17m in diameter. In the centre a large capstone was found to cover a 'small square chamber' (with dry masonry walls) which measured 71cm in depth and 94cm in width. In the cist, a vase was discovered 'which contained the incinerated remains of human bones'. *PRIA* 10 (1866-69), 22. Wilde, *Lough Corrib* (1872), 224.

Letterkeen, Co. Mayo. Fig. 5:3 (grave 3).

OS 46
Five graves were found in an area measuring approximately 14m by 4m. A ringfort was constructed on the site in early Historic times. Burial

2 was protected by what might have been the remains of a cairn but the excavator assumed that the other burials had also been cairn covered and that the monument was destroyed by the ringfort builders; flat cemetery? 1. A short rectangular cist, with capstone measured approximately 90 by 60cm in depth, it contained the cremated remains of two human adults and one child; two vases were recovered from this grave which had been disturbed. 2. A short sub-rectangular, slab-built cist lay beneath some 40cm of cairn material, it measured 65 by 55cm internally. It was roofed by a capstone and its floor was cobbled; long axis NE-SW. The cist was completely filled with loose sandy clay, through which was mixed the cremated bones of two adults and an adolescent. Two vases rested mouth downwards on the floor, each covering a small quantity of cremated bone. 3. A short rectangular slab-built cist divided into two compartments by a transverse slab, its long axis lay approximately E-W. The W compartment contained the cremated bones of at least one adult, some animal bones were present. With the bones was found a small tubular bone object. The E compartment contained the cremated bones of one adult and one child. 4. Partly above the capstone of Burial 3 an unprotected oval pit contained the cremated bones of an adult. 5. An unprotected pit of approximately rectangular form, measuring 40 by 30cm and 15cm in depth was completely filled with the cremated bones of a human adult. In the upper levels of the bones was an inverted biconical cup (Kavanagh 35). About 1.5m E of Burial 5 a semi-circular trench was associated with several pits over which stones had been built; the pits were filled with ashes, charcoal and large quantities of minute fragments of cremated bone representing at least one human adult, and an animal, possibly sheep. This feature was considered to have served as a crematorium. *PRIA* 54 C (1952), 89.

LISMEEGAUN, Co. Mayo.

OS 81

A photograph of a short rectangular cist found in 1912 is preserved in the Department of Archaeology, University College, Galway. The cist was found in a gravel ridge and 'bones were found in it'. No further details. *JRSAI* 44 (1914), 13.

RATHDUFF, Co. Mayo.

OS 39

A short rectangular cist, which measured 107 by 61cm and 46cm in depth, was found in 1941 'in a green mound on a little hill'; it contained cremated

bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 125.

SRAHREVAGH, Co. Mayo.

OS 96

A short rectangular cist found in 1946 was covered by a capstone which measured 122 by 76cm. Some cremated bones were found in it. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 125.

STONEPARK, Co. Mayo.

OS 100

A short rectangular slab-built cist which had been disturbed c. 1897 was examined in 1933, its capstone measured 114cm in width and 165cm in length. Its long axis apparently lay NW-SE and only the floor of its SE half was paved. The grave had contained the unburnt bones of an adult male, a vase and 'a curiously shaped fossil coral' (*Michelinia megastoma*). The skeleton had apparently lain in a crouched position. *JGAHS* 16 (1934), 60.

STUCKEEN, Co. Mayo.

OS 100

A tumulus destroyed c. 1926, had covered a cist which had contained 'a cinerary urn ... ashes and burnt particles of bone'. The vessel was destroyed and no further details are known. *JGAHS* 16 (1934), 61. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 82.

THORNHILL, Co. Mayo.

OS 87

A short rectangular cist found in a sandpit in 1952 measured approximately 46 by 30cm internally. It contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 125.

TULLY, Co. Mayo.

OS 96

A cist contained cremated bones. No details. NMI.

BALLINVALLY, Co. Meath.

OS 9

A short sub-rectangular slab-built cist was found in 1935; it measured 61 by 46cm and 38cm in depth. Its long axis lay N-S. It contained a vase and cremated bones of an adult. The cist was roofed with a capstone, the underside of which was ornamented with four groups of pairs of pecked concentric circles. Two other short cists (below) were found in a neighbouring field to the south. Raftery, *Prehistoric Ireland* (1951), fig. 155. *JRSAI* 76 (1946), 72; 100 (1970), 126; 102 (1972), 228.

BALLINVALLY, Co. Meath.

OS 9

Two short rectangular cists were found in 1935 but were unsatisfactorily recorded. The measurements of one were 91 by 76cm and 46cm in depth; when found it had no capstone. The other lay about

1.20m away and was approximately the same size and roofed with a large capstone, some bone fragments were found. It was reported that 'the two cists lay in the approximate centre of a circular enclosure, with slight elevation, and further surrounded by a very shallow ditch ... about 25 metres in diameter'. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 126.

BALRATH, Co. Meath.

OS 3

Bowl found with bones, possibly cremated, in a sand-pit c. 1939. Nearby two extended skeletons were found accompanied by a boar's tusk. No precise details. NMI.

BETAGHSTOWN, Co. Meath.

OS 21

A short sub-rectangular cist contained the crouched skeleton of an 18 year old male with head to NE. A bowl was inverted at the left shoulder. Other burials found in the vicinity dated to the later Iron Age. NMI. (Information from E. Kelly).

BLACKCASTLE DEMESNE, Co. Meath.

OS 25

A short distance from the round tower of Donaghmore some labourers turned up two urns, formed of clay, rudely carved at the top, containing burned ashes and bones ... with large stones placed round them and only a few feet underground. Several others found nearby at different times. *The Freeman's Journal*, February 23rd, 1813.

BRIARLEAS, Co. Meath.

OS 28

A possible cist was found in 1946 in a sand-ridge. Several slabs and an urn were reported. This find was made in Briarleas townland. (Information from Gabriel Cooney). *Ríocht na Midhe*, Vol. 4, no. 2 (1968), 86.

CHARLESFORT DEMESNE, Ballyhaigue, Co. Meath.

OS 17

Bowl found in a cist in 1860: no further details. *BAP* 1, fig. 378. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 126.

COLLIERSTOWN, Co. Meath.

OS 27

Short rectangular cist found in 1933 in a gravel ridge about 2m W of a tumulus. The cist measured about 137 by 122cm overall and its long axis lay N-S; it had been disturbed in the 19th century when an urn 'of fairly large size ... and elaborately ornamented', containing burnt bones, was found. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 126.

CROGHAN ERIN, Kiltale, Co. Meath.

OS 37

A tumulus described as 'in the form of a frustrum of a cone' was investigated c. 1849; it measured approximately 20m in diameter and 3.50m in height. In a pit beneath the mound a bowl was found accompanied by 'a thin piece of either brass or copper, about eighteen inches long and three inches wide, which was figured or carved round its edges', this was not preserved. No bones were recorded. In the body of the mound, a human skeleton reportedly 'in a perpendicular position' was found and in its vicinity an iron spearhead and a bronze riveted dagger were found not, however, in association. Sherds of the bowl, the bronze dagger and iron spearhead are preserved in the National Museum of Ireland. *PRIA* 4 (1850), 388. Wilde (1857), 194.

CROSSAKEEL, Co. Meath.

OS 16

Bowl said to have been found in a cist with another anomalous vessel. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 126.

DOON, Co. Meath.

OS 1

Bowl found in 1947 in a cist with cremated bones: the cist was rectangular, long axis E-W; the bones may have lain at the E end, the pot at the other. NMI. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 126.

FOURKNOCKS I, Co. Meath.

Fig. 83. OS 33

Most of the eight secondary burials in the mound of a passage tomb were protected by a secondary mantling eccentrically placed on the primary mound. Four of the five cists each contained unburnt infant or child burials: 1. Short rectangular, 64 by 26cm, long axis approx. NE-SW; contained crouched skeleton of 8 year old lying on right side facing N. A bowl rested at a slight tilt on the child's lap. 2. Similar to no. 1: contained unburnt bones of three children, one may have been deposited later than another. Some burnt and unburnt human bone found above capstone. 3. Short rectangular cist, 54 by 35cm; WNW-ESE, crouched skeleton of a child on left side, head to E, facing S. 4. Unfinished and empty cist (very small amount of comminuted cremated bone found in fill). 5. Remains of a cist, unburnt femur fragment and sherds of a bowl - a burial disturbed by a later vase urn burial (below). 6. Bowl and remains of skeleton of an adult: an unprotected pit. Another bowl was found outside the kerb of the mound on the E: no bones. 7. Vase urn inverted in a pit and containing cremated bones of an adult. 8. Vase urn inverted in

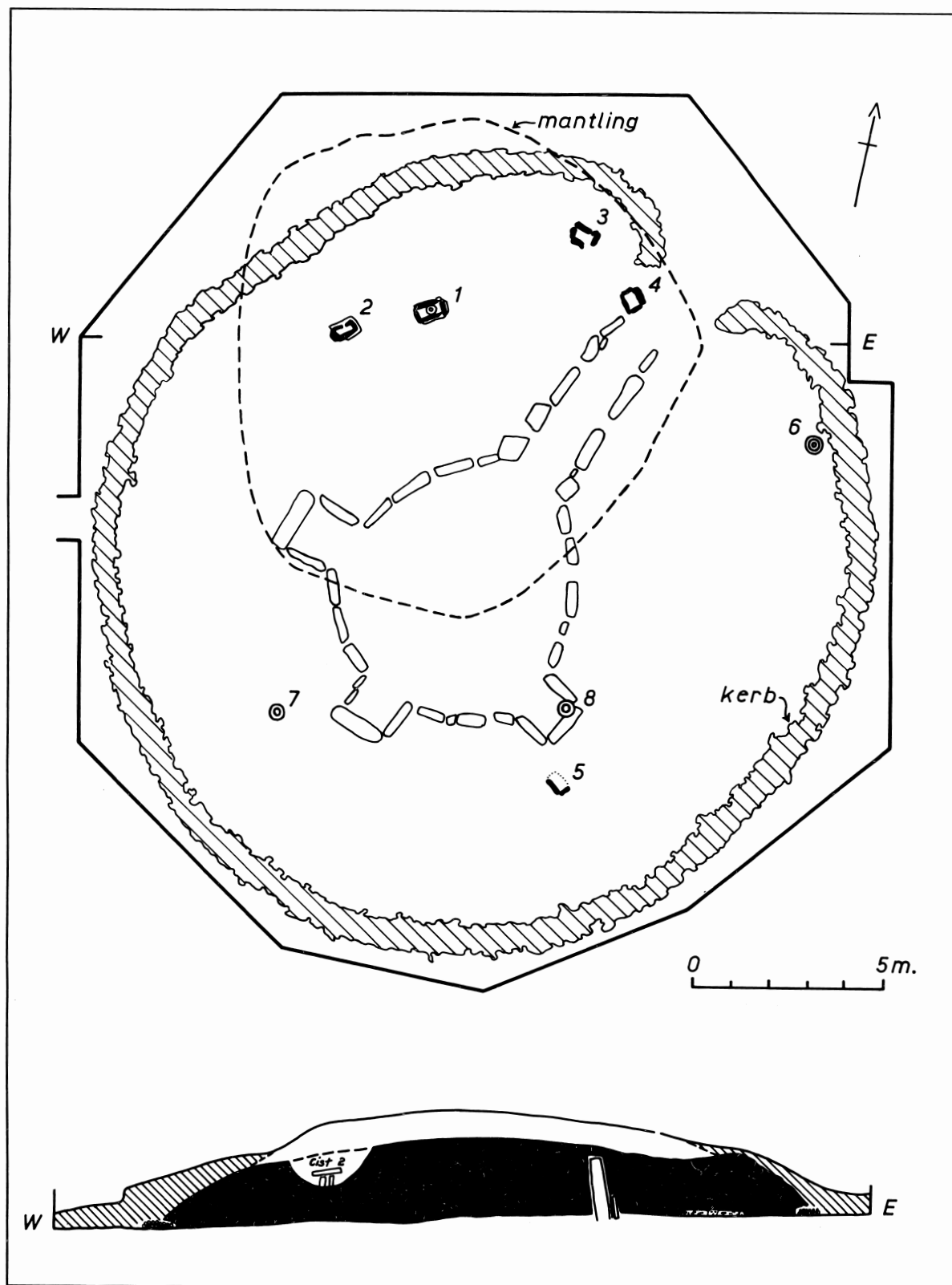


Fig. 83. Fourknocks I, Co.Meath (after Hartnett).

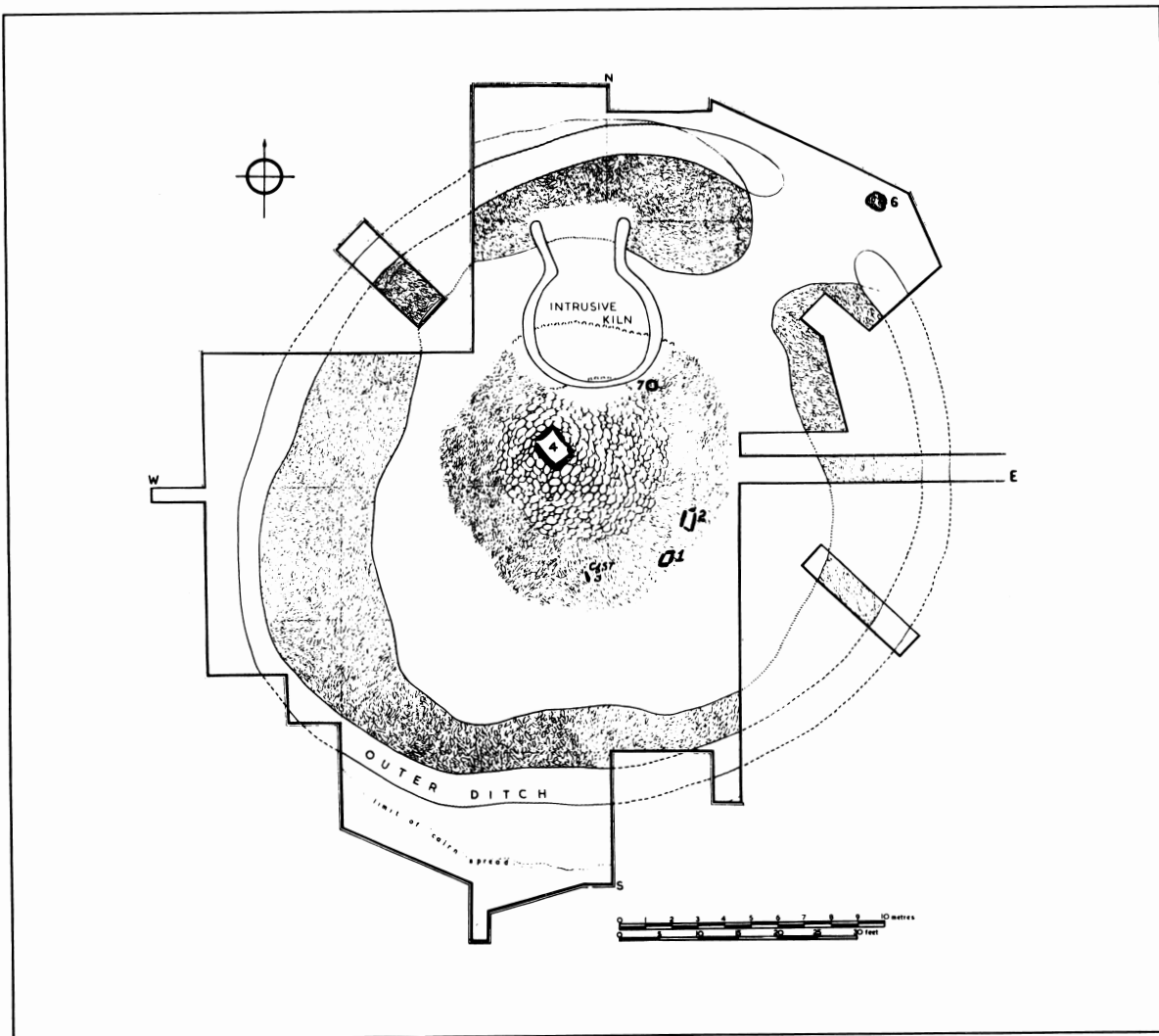


Fig. 84. Fourknocks II, Co. Meath (after Hartnett).

a pit, it contained the cremated bones of an adult, a few stones had been placed on the base of the urn (It disturbed burial 5 above). The majority of burials were found in the N half of the mound. *PRIA* 58 C (1957), 253.

FOURKNOCKS II, Co. Meath. Fig. 84. OS 33 A complex Neolithic tumulus of oval form, which measured 28 by 24m and some 4m in height, was surrounded by a penannular ditch. In Bronze Age times at least eight secondary burials were inserted into the mound or placed nearby: 1. A rectangular slab-built cist, long axis approximately NE-SW, measured 70 by 50cm externally; it contained a few fragments, apparently cremated, of the bones of one adult. 2. A rectangular slab-built cist, long axis

N-S. Outside the cist some fragments of cremated bone lay on top of the packing stones which surrounded it. At the bottom of the cist lay the crouched skeleton of an adult female on its right side, the skull was upright against the S end-stone and faced N; the grave had been filled with earth and some fragments of cremated bone were found in the upper fill, cremated human bone and some charcoal were found under the skeleton. A bronze awl and three flint flakes were also found. 3. The remains of a disturbed cist: two small fragments of unburnt bone were recovered. 4. A rectangular slab-built cist measuring 1.50m by 1.20m, long axis lay NW-SE; the junction of capstone and side-stones was firmly sealed in part with a mixture of stones and clay. It contained the unburnt skeletal

remains of an adult, disturbed possibly by rodents but apparently once placed in a crouched position. Another individual may be represented among the bones; the cremated bones of an adult were found scattered among and below the unburnt remains. In the NE corner of the cist, a bowl stood mouth upwards. 5. A scatter of cremated bone – thought perhaps to be the remains of a disturbed burial – possibly disturbed by insertion of no. 4. 6. An oval pit outside the ditch on the NE was partly rock-cut and roofed with a flat slab; it contained an en-crusted urn (Kavanagh 63) and a vase, both inverted over cremated bone. The urn lay at the west end, the bones were those of an adult human; the vase, at the east end, also covered adult bones. 7. A scatter of cremated bone spread over an area 60 by 50cm at a depth of 12cm in the mound, the bones were those of a young person. Traces of decayed vegetable matter around and on top of the deposit were thought to be the remains of a container made of some organic substance. 8. Some cremated bone in the vicinity of a lime-kiln intruded into the mound, considered to represent the remains of at least one burial. Sherds of bowl also found. *PRIA* 71 C (1971), 35.

FOURKNOCKS III, Co. Meath.

OS 33

An approximately circular mound, constructed of alternate layers of stones and earth, measured about 13m in diameter and about 2m in height. It had been disturbed in part and there was no ditch. At the centre, beneath the mound, a centrally placed pit of roughly sub-rectangular form had been dug into the subsoil to a depth of about 35cm. Around its edge was a setting of small stones and it was filled with a mixture of earth, charcoal and cremated bone; the bones were those of an adult. Three fragments of flint were found in the pit. On the S side of the mound a small cordoned urn (Kavanagh 43) was found protected by stones packed around it, at a depth of 80cm, its mouth was covered by a stone slab and it contained the cremated bones of a young child. On the W side of the mound a small pottery vessel (of the cordoned urn class) was found inverted at a depth of 60cm. Nothing was found with it. On the N side a spread of charcoal was found some 3.4cm thick and containing some bone, it lay on old ground level. Another charcoal spread lay E of the mound. Other finds included a few flint flakes. *PRIA* 71 C (1971), 75.

KEENOGE, Co. Meath. Fig. 85. Plates 1–3. OS 27 A flat cemetery of 14 graves was uncovered from 1929–1936; the cemetery was situated on a low esker: 1. A 'square' cist was destroyed; it contained 'ashes and bones'. 2. A polygonal cist about 90cm in overall diameter with paved floor; the walls were of two courses of dry masonry not obviously corbelled but slightly inclining. According to the finder the cist contained three vessels, two of which (at least) were inverted, the third may have been represented by sherds. The cist contained cremated bones. Two vessels are preserved: an en-crusted urn (Kavanagh 64) found inverted and a vase urn which was found in sherds; one plain sherd preserved may represent the third pot. 3. A pit grave with a paved floor (illustrated in *NMI Report* 1928–1929, pl. 4), two large stones nearby may have afforded some protection to the burial. A crouched skeleton lay on the paving, head to S, lying on its left side; it was accompanied by two bowls, one by the occiput (mouth upwards), the other by the lower back (position not noted by finder). A small bronze knife or 'razor' lay by the bowl near the skull; also found: a fragment of a flint arrowhead (?), a flint flake, a flint thumb scraper and a few stone chips (one oddly shaped like a boar's tusk). Two unworked dog's teeth were found a metre or two outside the grave (*PRIA* 67 C, 1968, 82; *JRSAI* 99, 1969, 69, fig. 3: finds from grave 3). 4. Crouched skeleton of a child, unprotected (a pit burial), head to NNW. 5. Pit grave contained a crouched skeleton on its right side, head to N, and a bowl in front of the head. A large stone found above and to one side of the grave may have marked its position. 6. Short rectangular cist of large stones, paved floor, 94cm by 63cm. Two large boulders formed a 'tail' from the NE end of the cist. The cist was closed by a number of over-sailing slabs covered with numerous small stones. It contained a crouched skeleton lying on its left side facing approximately SE, a bowl stood mouth upwards in front of the face. Two other bowls were found outside and on either side of the cist a metre or two away from it. 7. Small rectangular cist, approx. 33 by 25cm, paved floor; it contained the skeletal remains of an infant. This cist found immediately to the S of and 48cm above no. 8. 8. Small rectangular cist, its capstone lay below the level of the floor of no. 7, 58 by 51cm, paved floor, long axis E–W; contained cremated bones. 9. Short rectangular cist, approx. 150 by 76 by 71cm deep, long axis E–W, no capstone found, roughly

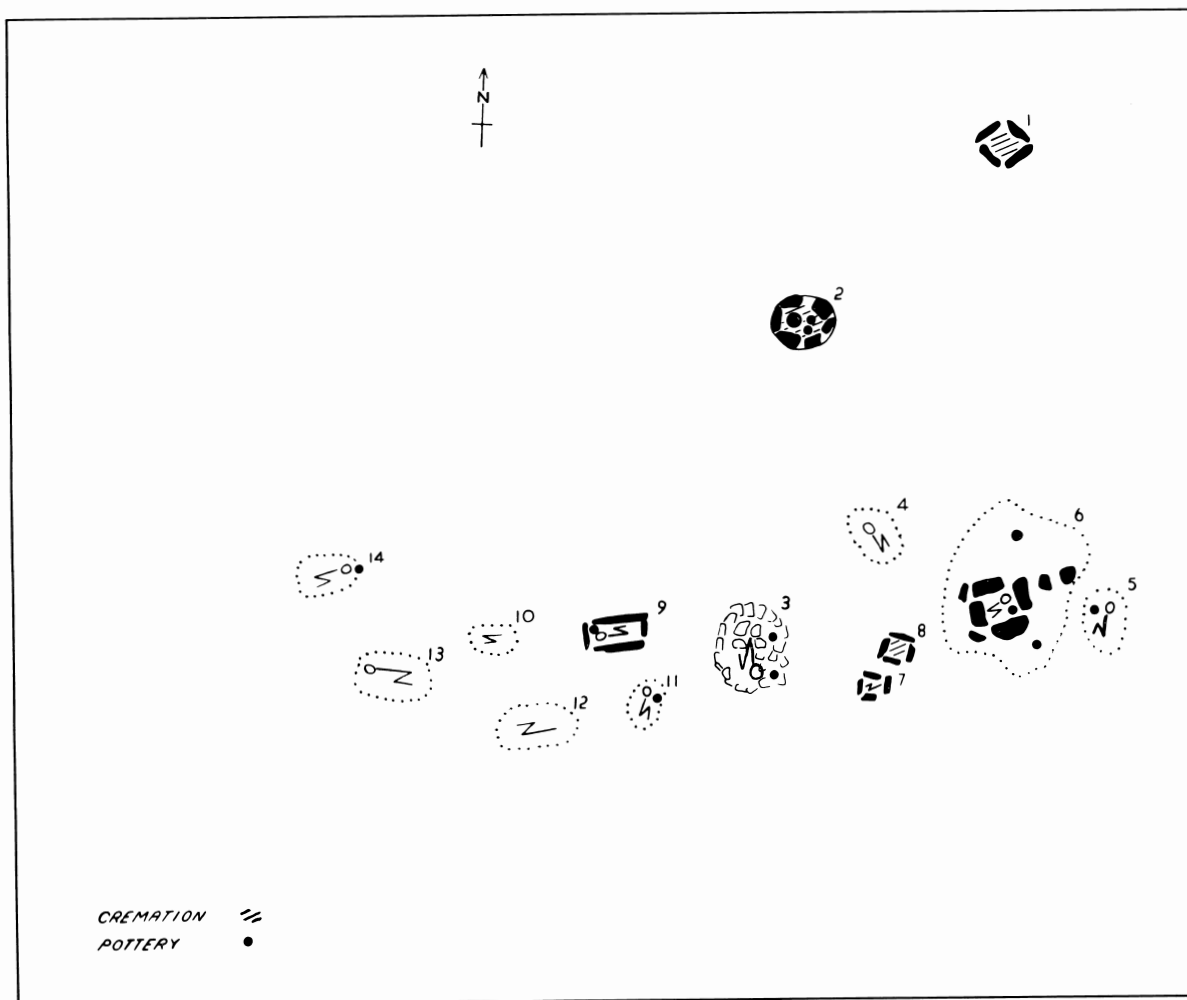


Fig. 85. Keenoge, Co. Meath, flat cemetery (from records of the National Museum of Ireland: sketch plan after Mahr).

paved floor. The cist contained a crouched skeleton of a child, head to W, facing N, lying on its left side. A bowl was found in front of the skull; a boar's tusk was also found. 10. A pit grave – destroyed; a skeletal burial had apparently been protected by a loose pile of stones. 11. Pit containing a crouched skeleton of an adult lying on its left side and facing east; bowl found in front of face. 12. Pit containing a crouched skeleton: no grave goods or data. 13. A crouched skeleton in a pit, the body was protected by a few small stones. Near the skull 40 jet beads were found (4 bi-conical, 5 cylindrical and 31 barrel-shaped). 14. A pit, lined with a few stones, contained a crouched skeleton; a bowl was found 'near' the skull. NMI. Martin, *Prehistoric Man in Ireland* (1935), 96. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 127, and refs.

Near KELLS, Co. Meath.

OS 17

Three cists found, one – at least – contained a 'cinerary urn'. A cist and a crouched skeleton also reported. *JRSAI* 21 (1890–91), 595. *J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* 1 (1846), 59.

KNOCKMUNNION, Co. Meath.

OS 25

A 'stone cist' found c. 1860 contained a bowl, and a leaf-shaped and a lozenge-shaped flint arrowhead. *BAP* 1, fig. 285. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 127.

MARTINSTOWN, Co. Meath.

OS 37

A possible flat cemetery in a esker ridge – a number of burials, at least five, were found in the course of sand digging in the early 1950s: 1. Sherds of a vase urn were recovered from the floor of the sand pit. 2. Pit grave containing crouched skele-

ton; unidentifiable sherd (possibly bowl or vase) found just outside the grave. An egg-shaped white pebble rested on the mid-portion of the skeleton. 3. Pit grave: crouched skeleton of a child accompanied by a bowl (with seed impression of barley). 4-5. Two other pit graves each contained a bowl and a skeleton. A Neolithic grave was also found in this esker. *JRSAI* 81 (1951), 19. NMI.

MONKNEWTOWN, Co. Meath.

OS 19

Short rectangular cist, approx. 46 by 30 by 30cm deep, contained a bowl and cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 127.

MOUND OF THE HOSTAGES, TARA, Co. Meath. (Castleboy td.)

OS 31

A large cemetery of some 40 burials in a mantling of clay covering the cairn of a passage tomb: all but one of the burials were cremated. The unburnt burial consisted of the unprotected skeleton of a youth, lying on its back with legs flexed, head to SW; the skeleton was accompanied by a bronze knife, a fragment of bronze wire (or an awl?), and a necklace of beads of jet, amber, faience and bronze tubing. The urn burials included a number of encrusted urns (Kavanagh 57-62) and collared urns (Kavanagh 36-38; Longworth 1984, nos. 2236-2238); two cups are also published (Kavanagh 36-37). *PPS* 21 (1955), 163. De Valera in appendix to S. P. Ó Ríordáin, *Tara, the monuments on the Hill*, 3rd ed. (1965). Herity, *Irish Passage Graves* (1974), 252.

NEVINSTOWN, Co. Meath.

OS 25

A pit grave excavated in 1977 contained an inverted encrusted urn filled with cremated bones representing at least two adults and one child. The urn was accompanied by an inverted vase which also contained a few fragments of burnt bone. NMI. (Information from M. Cahill).

NEWCASTLE, Co. Meath. Fig. 86.

OS 9

Short rectangular cist with paved floor, side slabs extended beyond end slabs, long axis NE-SW, 52 by 30cm, about 38cm deep. It contained the cremated bones of 'possibly two or three adults' in its NE half. *Ríocht na Midhe*, Vol. 2 (1962), 33.

OLDBRIDGE, Co. Meath.

OS 20

A tumulus about 20m in diameter and 2m high covered a double cist, each chamber measured about 122 by 61 by 81cm deep, each had a floor slab

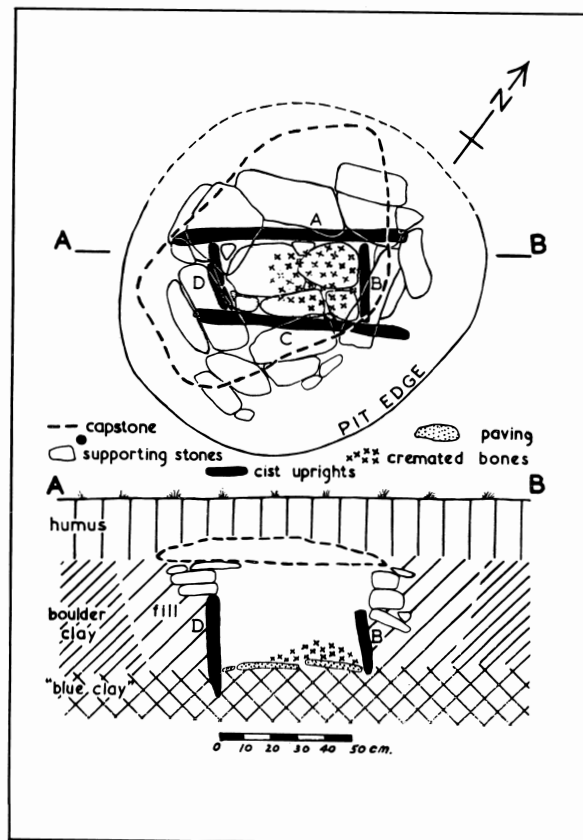


Fig. 86. Newcastle, Co. Meath (after Rynne).

and both were covered by a capstone 2.10m by 1.58m. The long axis of the grave lay NE-SW. Each compartment apparently contained unburnt burials, only the teeth surviving. It is reported that a bowl (lying on its side) was found in the NE chamber with the teeth of two males; a jet necklace and the teeth of a young adult female were recovered from the SW chamber. *PRIA* 19 (1893-6), 747.

OLDBRIDGE, Co. Meath.

OS 20

A short rectangular slab-built cist measured 97cm by 53.5cm and 46cm in depth. The orientation of its long axis is recorded as NE by E. A human skull was found in the SW corner and close to it a bowl reportedly containing 'some burnt ashes'; 'marks of fire' were allegedly noted on the sides of the cist and on the underside of the capstone which also bore four depressions 'rather like cup-marks'. In the centre of the cist were heaped the long bones of the skeleton with smaller bones on top. The remains were those of an old adult male. *PRIA* 20 (1896-98), 570.

RATOATH, Co. Meath.

OS 44

A possible cist, found in 1864, apparently contained bones and one or two anomalous pots (one of which was a double-vessel). Bronze Age? Forgeries? *JRSAI* 104 (1974), 143.

ROSSNAREE, Co. Meath.

OS 19/26

A pit grave(?) contained the crouched skeleton of a woman and foetus; the burial was accompanied by a tin-plated silver ear-ring, two fragments of which survive (it consists of a narrow curving strip of silver bearing herring-bone ornament on one surface). Bronze Age? Raftery, *Prehistoric Ireland* (1951), 149.

ANNAHEAN, Co. Monaghan.

OS 34

'On a rising ground, human bones enclosed with rough stones in the form of a coffin have often been turned up with the plough'. A flanged bronze axehead was found in 'one of these venerable graves'. Shirley, *Some Account of the Territory or Dominion of Farney* (1845), 179. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 103; 100 (1970), 127.

Near BALLYBAY, Co. Monaghan.

OS 19

A bowl recorded as having been found with cremated bones 'close to Ballybay'. No further details known. NMI.

CABRAGH, Co. Monaghan.

OS 24

A bowl is said to have been found in a cist-grave in 1948. No precise details recorded. *JRSAI* 90 (1960), 18.

EMYVALE, Co. Monaghan.

OS 6

Cist with bones and 'urn' found under a building on the west side of Emyvale village (opposite the 'Court Ho. Dispy'. marked on the OS sheet). Destroyed. (Information from A. Walsh).

BALLICKNAHEE, Co. Offaly.

OS 8

Short rectangular cist found in a gravel ridge in 1961, 70 by 55cm, long axis E-W. Contained the crouched skeleton of an adult female, head to E, facing N; laid on top of the skeleton in the region of the thorax was a deposit of cremated bone representing at least one adult. *JRSAI* 93 (1963), 124.

BALLYNAMONA, Co. Offaly.

OS 9

A standing stone in this townland measures approximately 1.55m in height above ground level and about 1.20m in maximum width. In October

1935 an excavation on its western side (which consisted of a cutting 1.60m long and 76cm in maximum width, running outwards from the stone) revealed a small deposit of unburnt, disarticulated human bones at the base of the stone; the remains included jaw and long bones, with cranium to the south, and they lay unprotected some 19cm below ground level. Similar cuttings on the east and north sides of the stone revealed nothing. Bronze Age? A cemetery mound is known from the adjoining townland of Lug. (Information from Professor M. V. Duignan).

COOLRUSK, Co. Offaly.

OS 25

Many small rectangular cists, containing burnt bones 'but no urns, or arms, or ornaments', were opened on Coolrusk Hill. *JRSAI* 1 (1850), 131. O'Leary, *History of the Queens County* (1907), 56.

LEHINCH, Co. Offaly.

OS 8

Mechanical gravel digging in 1978 revealed an unburnt burial. Fragments of a bowl were recovered, reportedly near the head which lay to the E. Excavation revealed a further six burials: one was a cremation in a shallow pit, the others were extended unburnt burials in pits, heads to NW. A piece of red deer antler was found with one of the extended skeletons, and another was headless. A small penannular ditch was found to the S of the burials; it was about 4m across internally. Some cremated bone, a pot sherd and a chert scraper were found in the ditch. NMI. (Information from Raghnaill Ó Floinn).

LUG, Co. Offaly.

OS 9

The remains of a cemetery mound were excavated in 1935. Tillage operations had destroyed much of the cairn and little reliable information was obtained about its original dimensions; it would appear to have been a flat cairn, roughly circular in plan, measuring some 20m in diameter and about 1.20m in height. Before excavation the monument was barely discernible and some of the graves had suffered disturbance. Seven cist graves were found and two unprotected deposits of cremated bone:

1. Simple limestone cist roofed with an irregularly shaped capstone with a very uneven upper surface and a smooth lower surface. Below the capstone, a second smaller slab rested on two of the side stones and covered the NW corner of the cist. The cist was almost square in plan and measured about 35cm in length and about 42cm in

depth. The remains of a badly crushed bowl or vase were found in a layer of gravel and limestone fragments on the roughly paved floor of the cist. The pot had apparently lain on its side near the NW corner, its mouth facing roughly west. No bones were found though some white particles, possibly just the remains of snail shells, were noted. 2. Rectangular cist; capstone rested on a number of small stones which in turn lay on the side slabs; it measured 50cm in length about 42cm in width, and its long axis lay virtually N-S. It contained the cremated bones of a child of about 6 or 7 and an adult. 3. The capstone of this cist had been covered by a mass of small limestone slabs. The cist was a well-made rectangular structure measuring about 70cm in length and 39cm in width; its long axis lay E-W and the floor was paved with small limestone fragments imbedded in the underlying gravel. It contained the crouched skeleton of an elderly female lying on her right side with the skull in the SW corner. A bowl had been placed mouth upwards behind the skull. 4. Short rectangular cist, slab-built with capstone; it measured about 70cm in length and 42cm in width; its long axis lay NNW-SSE, it contained the remains of the unburnt skeleton of an adult, possibly female. 5. Small slab-built cist, almost square in plan, measuring about 61cm in length. It contained the remains of the crouched skeleton of an adult possibly female; the skull lay in the SE corner. There were no grave goods. 6. Small, almost square, slab-built cist measuring about 35cm in length, it contained cremated bones (human). 7. Cist measuring 46cm in length, 43cm in width and 40cm in depth, contained the cremated bones of an adult. Both cists 6 and 7 apparently contained fragments of pottery. 8 and 9. Small unprotected scattered deposits of cremated human bone and charcoal. Grave 3 lay closest to the conjectural centre of the cairn. Grave 2 lay a short distance to the NE, and the remainder of the burials lay in the western and southern parts of the monument. A large posthole, 33cm in diameter and 46cms. deep was found on the NE inside the edge of the cairn. NMI. (Information from Professor M. V. Duignan). *JRSAI* 66 (1936), 191.

BALLYGLASS, Co. Roscommon. OS 28
A cist described as about 60cm by 30cm and covered by a large flat stone contained cremated bones and a bowl (the bones were in the vessel). A small 'mound' mentioned by the finder may have been natural. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 120.

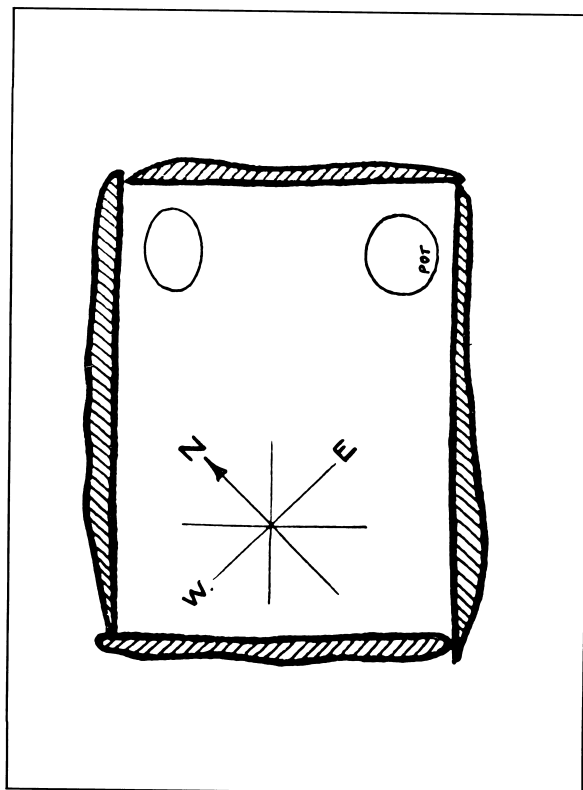


Fig. 87. Corroy, Co. Roscommon (after Morris).

CORROY, Co. Roscommon. Fig. 87. OS 16
A short rectangular cist, 63 by 46 by 33cm deep, long axis approx. NE-SW, was constructed of four slabs, one end of each overlapping the end of one adjoining slab. The cist contained the crouched skeleton of a child and a bowl which was found near the skull. A stone covered the mouth of the bowl. *JRSAI* 59 (1929), 99.

GRANGE, Co. Roscommon. OS 28
Cemetery mound containing some 13 burials, 8 of which were in short cists. Some cists contained bowls with cremations or unburnt skeletal remains. One of a number of secondary pit-burials contained a vase urn accompanied by a six-rivet bronze dagger with bone pommel and a second burial comprised a cremation, fragments of a vase urn, a crinoid bead, and a cup (Kavanagh 39). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 128. *PRIA* 67 C (1968), 51 (dagger). *BAR* 3 (1974), 28 (pommel).

KILKENNY, Co. Roscommon. Fig. 88. OS 51
A small cairn, 10m in diameter and 90cm high, covered a centrally placed long cist 1.65m by 64cm

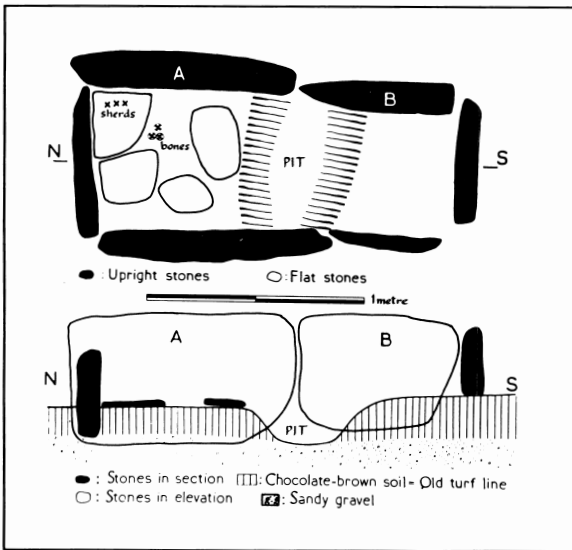


Fig. 88. Kilkenny, Co. Roscommon (after J. Raftery).

wide at N end to 55cm wide at S end. The remains of a paved floor were noted at the N end and sherds of a bowl and some cremated bone were recovered. *JGAHS* 29 (1960–61), 74.

LECARROW, Co. Roscommon. OS 42? '... Beneath the central stone of a small stone circle was found the skeleton of a young adult powerfully built man. Unfortunately the bones were broken into small pieces before they could be examined. At a later date two small Bronze Age urns were found near the north edge of the circle placed on the limestone rock four feet below the surface. With the urns was a large collection of burnt human bones, the remains of at least four individuals'. Sherds of vase may come from this site. *JRSAI* 53 (1923), 4.

RATHMORE, Co. Roscommon. OS – Cremated bone and bowl reported from cist in 1978. NMI.

BALLYEESKEEN, Co. Sligo. Fig. 89 OS 12 A small cairn 11.85m in diameter covered an unprotected ox-burial near the centre; only part of the animal was buried, 12 pieces of unclassifiable (? urn) pottery also found. There were two secondary burials: a short, sub-rectangular cist 45 by 30cm, contained the cremated remains of an adult and a chert flake; a pit contained a human cremation and a few sherds (unclassifiable, cord-ornamented). *JRSAI* 94 (1964), 145.

BALLYGRANIA, Co. Sligo. OS 20/26 A short sub-rectangular cist measured about 71cm by 25 to 33cm wide; heaped in the centre of the floor were the cremated bones of an adult and the teeth of a child. *JRSAI* 103 (1973), 186.

Near BALLYMOTE, Co. Sligo. OS 33 Bowl said to have been found in a 'vault' with bones; two other vessels (lost) recorded from site. Lewis notes several mounds covering stone graves containing 'bones and urns'. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 153. *JRSAI* 18 (1887–91), 267.

BALLYOGAN, Co. Sligo. OS 17 Short rectangular cist, 76 by 46cm wide approximately, contained a vase and cremation. About 1m away a polygonal cist measuring about 30cm in diameter contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 128.

BALLYSADARE (?), Co. Sligo. OS 20 Bowl possibly from a cist. *JRSAI* 18 (1887–8), 262.

BALLYSADARE (?), Co. Sligo. OS 20 Looped bronze spearhead (NMI. 1968: 260) is stated to have been found c. 1852 'in an artificial cave at Ballysuden (*sic*), Co. Sligo – with it were human bones partly charred and a vessel of baked clay which fell to pieces on being handled ...' (Ballysudden, Co. Tyrone, has been suggested as a possible provenance for this find but since the spearhead was acquired by a dealer in Roscommon, the find may well have been made in Co. Sligo). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 129; 101 (1971), 260 and fn. *Jour. Old Athlone Soc.* 1, no. 3 (1972–3), 138. *Dublin Historical Record* 33 (1979), 32.

BARNASHRAHY, Co. Sligo. OS 14 A bowl said to have been found in a cist or a passage tomb. *JRSAI* 18 (1887–8), 60.

BROUGHER, Co. Sligo. OS 40/45 A cist of irregular plan, four sides constructed of simple slabs, the fifth of dry masonry, had a floor-slab and was roofed by two capstones one on top of the other; the cist measured 60cm in length, 45cm in width and 43cm in depth. A bowl stood mouth upwards in one corner, beside it the cremated bones of one adult. Beneath the floor slab of the cist were found some pieces of charcoal (*Quercus* and *Corylus*). About 4.50m from the cist another

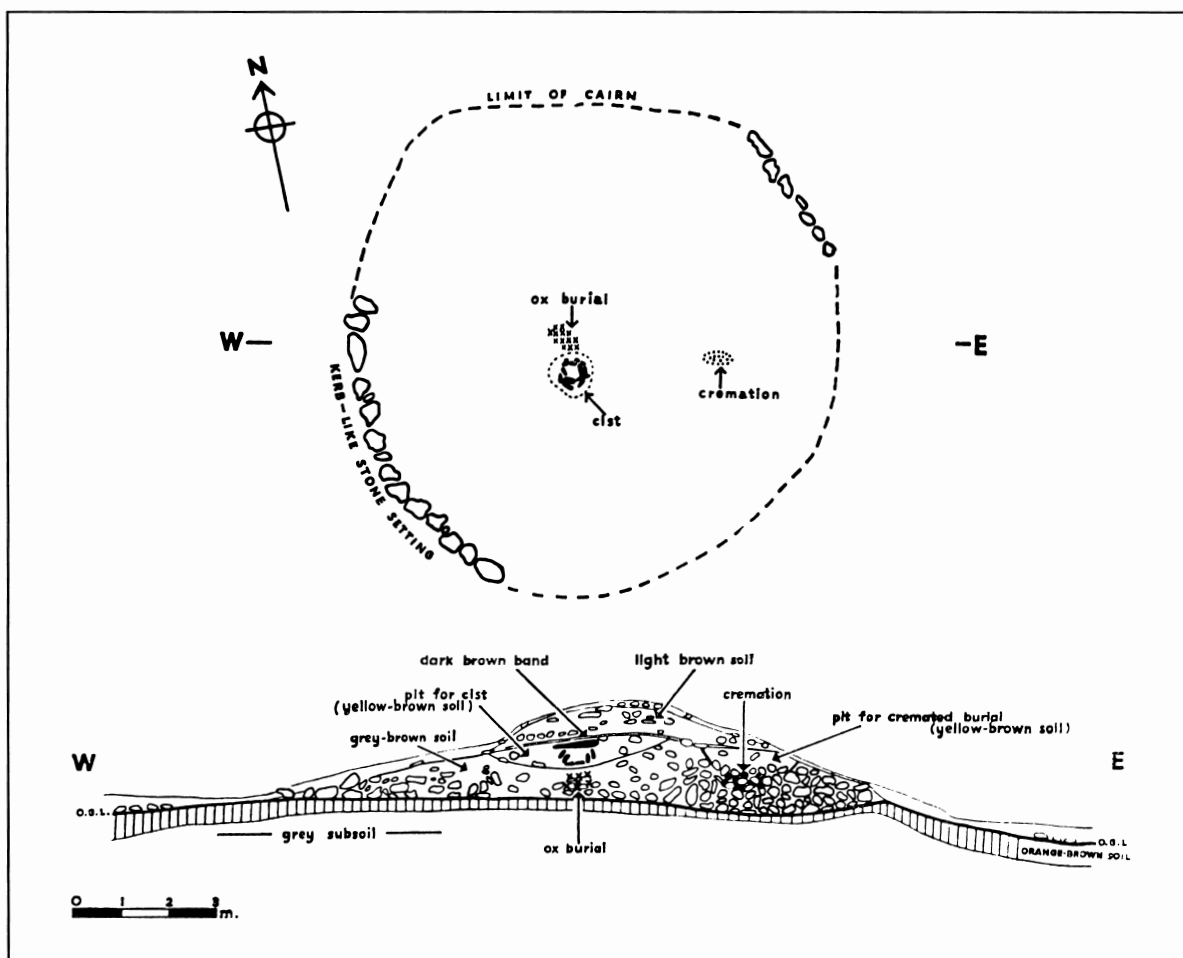


Fig. 89. Ballyeeskeen, Co. Sligo (after Danaher).

bowl was found some eight years before, it was stated to have come from a pit covered by a simple slab; no bones recorded. *JRSAI* 103 (1973), 186.

CARRICKBANAGHER, Co. Sligo. OS 26
A bowl found with bones and fragments of another vessel beneath a large slab. *PRIA* 7 (1857-61), 19. *JRSAI* 18 (1887-8), 266.

CARROWKEEL (Treanscrabbagh td.), Co. Sligo. OS 40.
Two short rectangular cists found in secondary position in Cairn B (a passage tomb), each contained 'burnt bone-dust'. *PRIA* 29 C (1911-12), 322.

CASTLECONOR, Co. Sligo. OS 22
In 1874 a small bronze knife was found with cremated bones in a tumulus. No further details.

JRSAI 18 (1887-88), 297. Binchy, in Rynne (ed.), *North Munster Studies* (1967), 58.

CLEAVRY, Co. Sligo. OS 34
A vase urn was found about 30cm below the surface in a sandpit, fragments of cremated bone were also found. NMI.

Near DOOMORE, Co. Sligo. OS 31, 32?
A cairn in the townland of 'Ballinaclassa', a short way west of Doomore, was surrounded by a 'small earthen circumvallation'; it was destroyed in the early nineteenth century but contained a cist which in turn contained 'a couple of urns'. *JRSAI* 18 (1887-88), 269.

KNOCKMULLIN, Co. Sligo. OS 26
Short, sub-rectangular cist approx. 45 by 43cm, long axis NE-SW, with floor slab; disturbed after

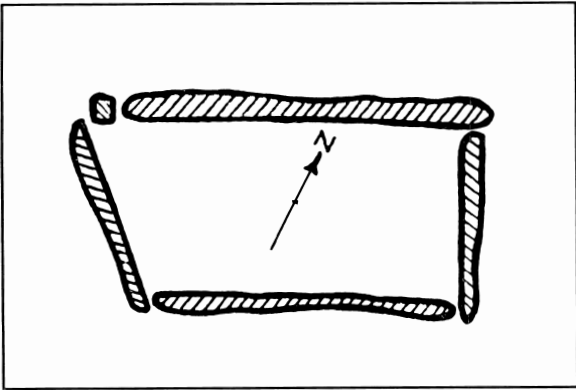


Fig. 90. Moylough, Co. Sligo (after Morris).

discovery, cremated bone and nine sherds of a vessel with beaker affinities recovered. *J. Kerry A.H.S.* 1 (1968), 20. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 129.

MOYLUGH, Co. Sligo. Fig. 90. OS 38 Short, sub-rectangular cist, approx. 74 by 33cm, 30cm deep, long axis WSW–ENE, undersurface of capstone decorated; contained cremated bones and a burnt bronze halberd. *JRSAI* 59 (1929), 113.

RATHBARRON, Co. Sligo. OS 20/26 'A small square coffer, of flagstones ... on the summit of an ancient rath' contained a vase, a polished stone axehead, a stone disc and cremated bones. Another cist and 'urn' are recorded from this townland, while a third cist was found 'on a hill called Sheeawn' and contained two urns one inside the other. *JRSAI* 18 (1887–88), 270.

SROOVE, Co. Sligo. OS 44 A ring-cairn contained two cists. One contained three floors, two of which covered a deposit of hazel nuts and cremated human bone; the remains of a child along with two sherds of bowl (?) were found on the upper floor. The second cist contained cremated bones of several individuals (perhaps successive burials) and a bowl. *Excavations* 1973, 23.

STONEPARK, Co. Sligo. Fig. 91. OS 45 Short rectangular cist with capstone, one side consisted of a slab, others were built of small boulders; long axis NW–SE, approx. 86 by 61cm. Contained crouched skeleton of an adult female and a bowl, the skeleton lay on its left side facing approx. SW; the bowl stood mouth upwards in front of the face. *JRSAI* 59 (1929), 104.

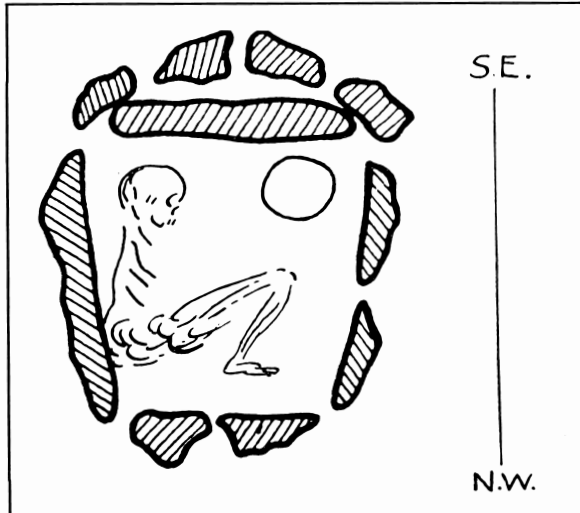


Fig. 91. Stonepark, Co. Sligo (after Morris).

TREANMACMURTAGH, Co. Sligo. OS 40 Cairn on mountain ridge, with kerb of large stones, contained a short cist near its western edge inside the conjectural line of the kerb at this point. The cist was slab-built and sub-rectangular, its long axis lay N–S. It measured 80cm by 50cm, the contents consisted of the disturbed crouched skeleton of a 10–12 year old child, its head to the north and lying on its left side, which was accompanied by a small vase which lay mouth upwards in front of the skull. All over the floor of the cist and under and among these bones were the scattered cremated bones of an adult. Two sherds of a second, probably bowl-shaped, pottery vessel were also found. Traces of a second, larger, cist-grave are visible in the cairn. *JRSAI* 99 (1969), 145.

BEALACLAVE, Co. Tipperary. Fig. 92. OS 38 The northern half of an oval pit 50 by 40cm (long axis N–S) was lined with three slabs, two small slabs lined the upper part of the S end. The pit was covered by three small capstones; the fill of the pit contained six pieces of quartz and a small amount of cremated bone rested on a layer of carbonised wood (the remains of an oak tray?) at the bottom of the pit. *NMAJ* 9 (1964), 89.

Near BRENORMORE, Co. Tipperary. OS 71 A cist, constructed of four slabs on edge, contained 'ashes' *JRSAI* 5 (1858–9), 11.

CHANCELLORSLAND, Co. Tipperary. OS 65 Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 66) and cremated bones

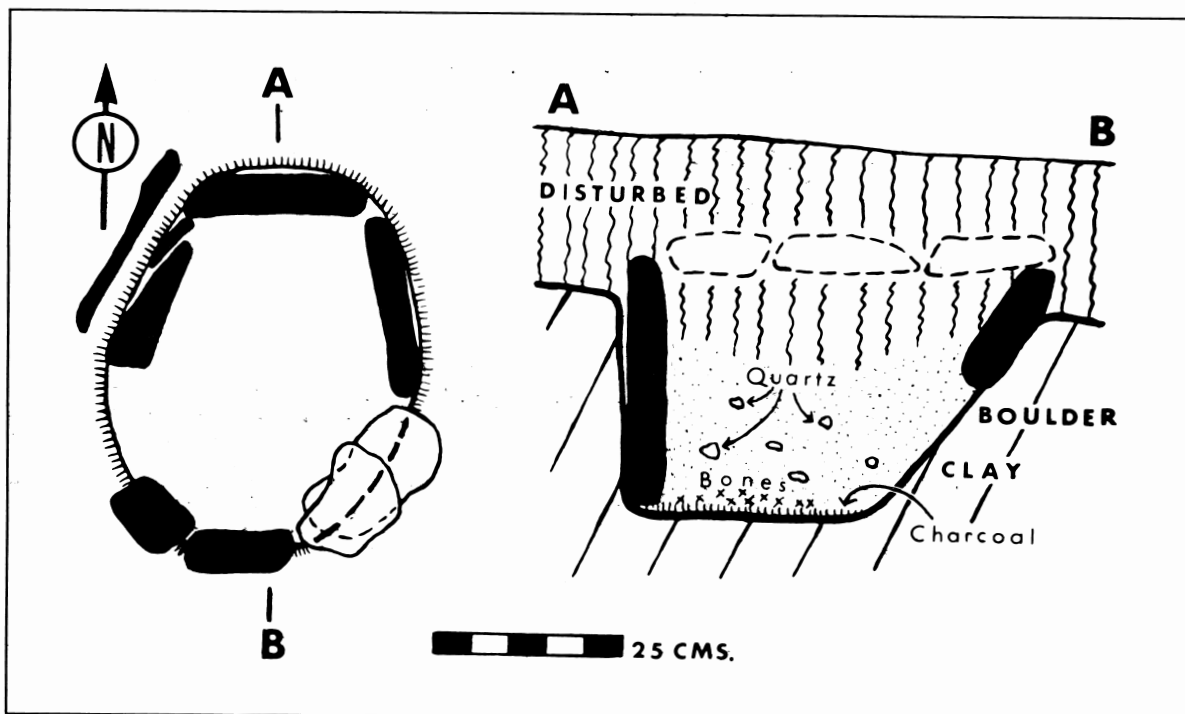


Fig. 92. Bealaclave, Co. Tipperary (after Rynne).

found in 1922 'in a chamber composed of large portable boulders, covered by a slab and surrounded by a small cairn or caisson of similar boulders'. A sketch shows the cist below ground level surrounded by stones which form a low cairn on the surface. NMI. *Cork Examiner* 14-10-1930. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 130.

DUNDRUM, Co. Tipperary.

OS 51/60

An anomalous vase is stated to have been found in a cist with cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 130.

FUSSOUGH, Co. Tipperary.

OS 53/61

Short rectangular cist, 46 by 32 by 42cm deep, long axis N-S, found in 1933, it contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 130.

GLENACUNNA, Co. Tipperary.

OS 78

Two graves uncovered by a bulldozer in 1975: 1. Segmented cist: short sub-rectangular cist, long axis NE-SW, divided in two by a transverse slab, each compartment had a floor slab and each held an inverted vase urn containing cremated bones of one individual; one of the urns also contained a miniature vase. 2. 12m to the W a stone-lined pit-grave contained cremated bones of one adult. *JCHAS* 81 (1976), 61.

MACREARY, Co. Tipperary.

OS 79

Short cist, said to have measured about 61 by 46cm, had a floor slab; found c. 1948, contained a pottery vessel and cremated bones. The grave was not disturbed. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 130.

MOANMORE, Co. Tipperary.

Fig. 93. OS 65

A polygonal cist with floor slab and capstone measured 82 by 52cm internally. Its longer axis lay E-W. It contained an encrusted urn inverted over a deposit of cremated bone. A vase stood mouth upwards just to the west of the urn. The bones represented two adults, one of them a young adult. *NMAJ* 19 (1977), 21.

REARDNOGY MORE, Co. Tipperary.

Fig. 94.

OS 38

Two pit burials found: 1. The capstone of a pit was found beneath a large, recumbent oblong stone; the pit contained cremated human bones and fragments of oak and ash charcoal. The oblong stone, 170cm long, may once have stood upright and marked the position of the grave. 2. About 10m to the W, another pit (disturbed by a mechanical excavator) contained the cremated bones of an adult, probably female, and a small bronze 'razor'. The bones were reportedly protected by three small slabs, one resting on top of the other two. *NMAJ*

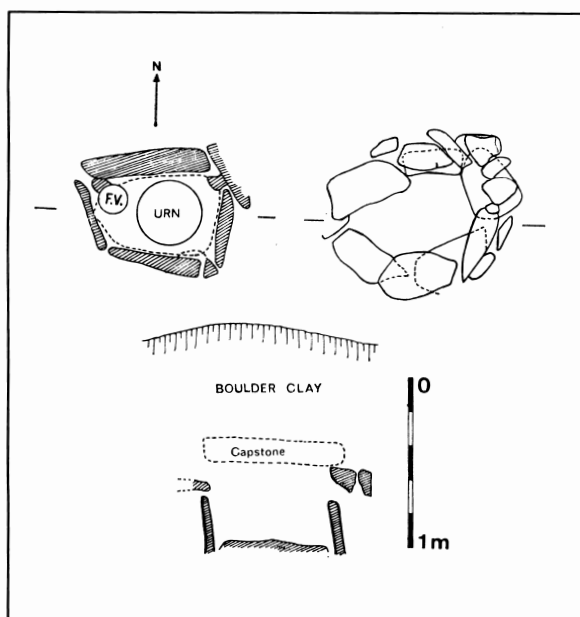


Fig. 93. Moanmore, Co. Tipperary (after Ryan).

12 (1969), 3.

SHEVRY, Co. Tipperary. OS 39/40
Sherds of an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 67), cremated bone and a piece of lead foil recovered from a sandpit. The association of the lead foil with the burial is uncertain; the cremated bone represented one adult and one child. *JRSAI* 91 (1961), 86.

AGHASCREBAGH, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 95. OS 19
A small cordoned urn was found mouth upwards in a pit on the western side of a low mound. The cremated bones of one adult female were found in and

around the urn; a calcined flint flake was also recovered. The mound was not excavated, it measured about 3m in diameter and 41cm high at its centre which was marked by a standing stone 1.20m high. *UJA* 1 (1938), 189.

ALTAMOOSKAN, Co. Tyrone. OS 44/52
A small polygonal cist of five side slabs (with floor slab) measured about 30cm in diameter; it contained the cremated bones of one adult. *JRSAI* 69 (1969), 177.

ALTMORE, Co. Tyrone. OS 37/45
A cairn on the summit of Cappagh Mountain covered a square cist which contained a plain bucket-shaped urn and cremated bones – it is stated that no weapons or ornaments were found. A bronze razor is preserved from what was presumably another urn burial in this townland (this urn is reportedly lost). *PRIA* 8 (1861–4), 131. Binchy, in E. Rynne (ed.), *North Munster Studies* (1967), 59.

ARDUNSHIN, Co. Tyrone. OS 58/59
‘Three small urns containing bones which were so small that it was doubted whether they were human’ were found in the spring of 1826 by people ‘who were setting potatoes’. Sketches of two bowls are preserved. *RIA OS Memoir*, Clogher parish.

BALLYVADDEN, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 96. OS 64
Short rectangular cist, 52 by 37 by 38cm deep, long axis NE–SW, contained a bowl and unburnt burial. Three other cists reported from vicinity – possible flat cemetery. *UJA* 7 (1944), 105; 32 (1969), 60.

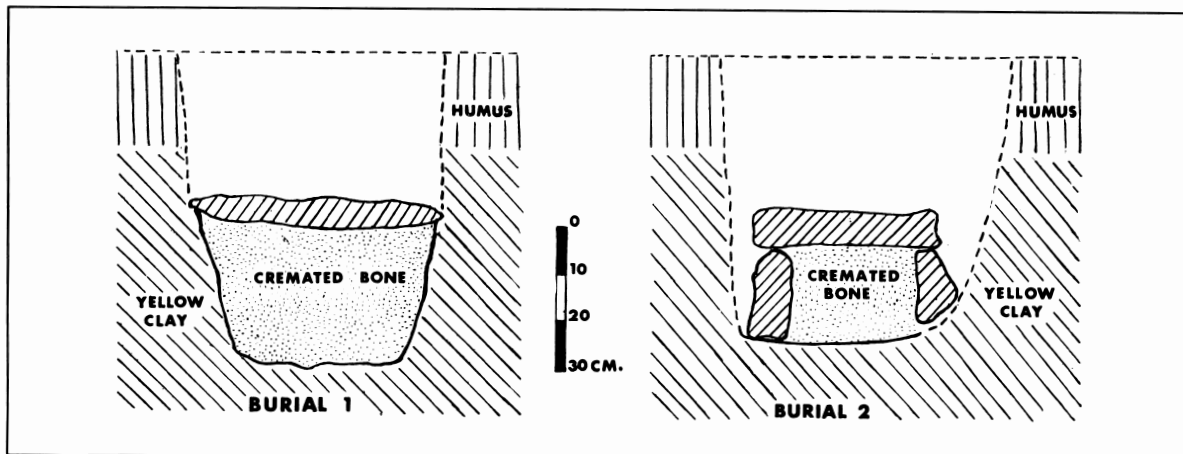


Fig. 94. Reardnogymore, Co. Tipperary (Burial 1 after Prendergast).

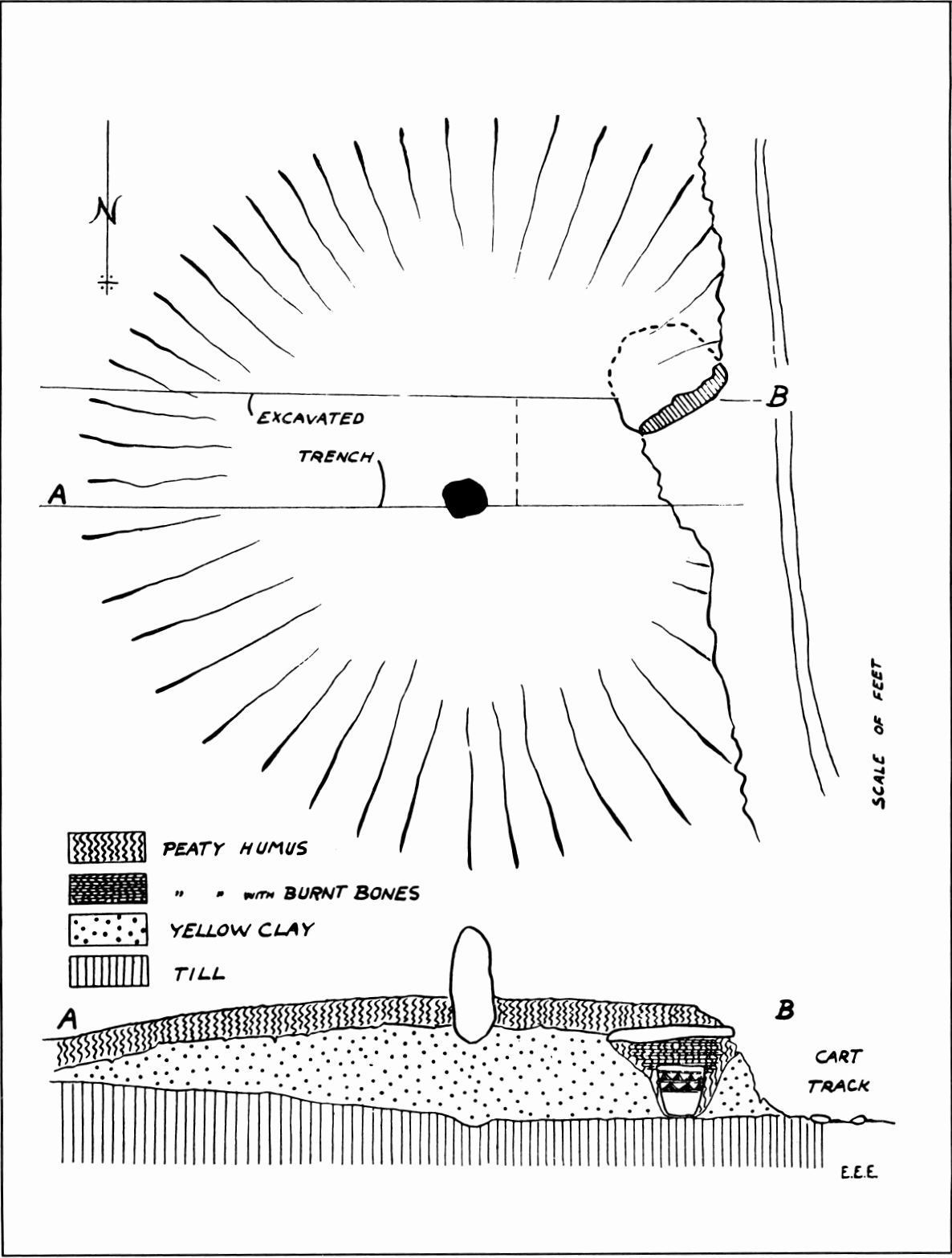


Fig. 95. Aghascrebagh, Co. Tyrone (after Evans).

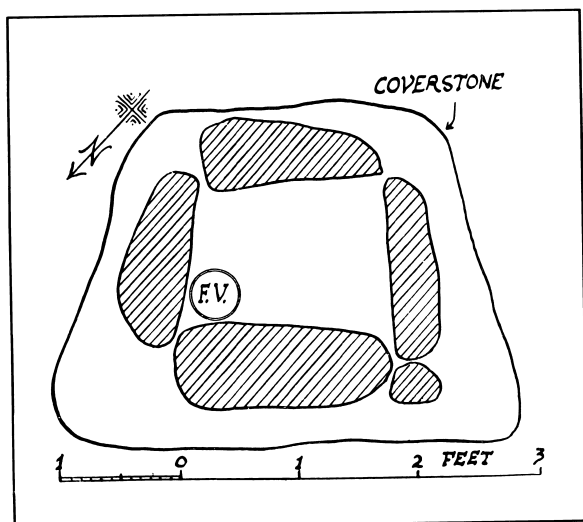


Fig. 96. Ballyvadden, Co. Tyrone (after Evans).

BEAGHMORE, Co. Tyrone.

OS 20/28

A number of small cairns containing roughly constructed cists: four had remains of cremations. C 14 determinations indicate a Bronze Age date. *JRSAI* 83 (1953), 174. *UJA* 32 (1969), 73; 42 (1979), 20.

BROUGHDERG, Co. Tyrone.

OS 20

A 'small square cist' about 33cm in length and width was found in 1880; a stone some 2m long stood about 1m above ground level beside the grave which contained a large urn, an accessory cup (Kavanagh 41) and cremated bones; the cup was found in the urn. About 50m away an urn and bones were found as well as a deposit of cremated bone near a large stone. *JRSAI* 15 (1879–82), 740.

CAMAGHY, Co. Tyrone.

OS 45

Two short cists, 3m apart, found in 1922, in the course of ploughing. One (cist A) was built of 'well-squared and close-fitting slabs', measured 102 by 47cm internally, with its long axis N–S. It contained the skeleton of young adult male, presumably crouched. The lower portion of a bowl is preserved, it lay at the head of the skeleton. This skeleton had been disturbed after its discovery and a number of teeth extracted from the skull. (Possibly because it was a local belief that such teeth were a cure for, or a prophylactic against, toothache). Cist B was of sub-rectangular plan, 107cm long, with its long axis E–W; it contained the disturbed skeleton of a girl of 16 or 17 years; the skeleton was presumably in the crouched position and a bowl had been placed at the head. Precise details

of the positions of skeleton and pottery not available. *PRIA* 36 C (1921–24), 150.

CARNKENNY, Co. Tyrone.

OS 17

Vase urn found inverted in a pit, contained what were presumably cremated bones. *UJA* 4 (1941), 47. (A ring-cairn of the later Bronze Age has been excavated in this townland: *UJA* 36–7 (1973–4), 17).

CARRYGLASS, Trillick, Co. Tyrone.

Fig. 97.

OS 57

In 1857 a circular cairn was investigated by W. F. Wakeman; it measured about 12m in diameter and 2.40m in height. No central grave was found but beneath the cairn around its periphery 8 short cists were found, each placed roughly 2.40m from the other: 1. On the paved floor of this cist lay the decayed unburnt bones of a young male. 2. 'Here and there' on the paved floor of a cist lay unburnt human bones and three vertebrae of a small mammal, possibly dog. Near the centre of the cist a bowl or a bowl-vase hybrid was found lying on its side. The bones were those of a youth of 15–16 years. 3. This short rectangular cist also had a paved floor and measured 107cm by 71cm. It was roofed by two capstones, one on top of the other and it contained portions of the disarticulated skeletons of two individuals, various bones including the mandibles were missing and one of the crania, judging from the published illustration had a circular hole in the frontal bone, whether this was due to decay or trepanning is not recorded. 4. A short rectangular cist, measuring 43 by 46cm and 46cm in depth, had a paved floor; it was empty. 5. A cist, similar to, but somewhat smaller than, no. 4, had been flooded. No finds. 6–7. Two cists were destroyed by treasure seekers; one had contained a bowl, only a sherd of which survived, and a plano-convex flint knife. Some fragments of unburnt bone were recorded from these graves. 8. A small cist containing some unburnt human bone in a much decayed condition. *JRSAI* 11 (1870–71), 579.

Near CLOGHERNY GLEBE, Co. Tyrone.

OS 12

Sherds of an accessory cup (Kavanagh 42) were found with cremated bones and a calcined, non-descript flint flake, in June 1900. NMI.

COOKSTOWN, Co. Tyrone.

OS 29

No details survive about the discovery of a

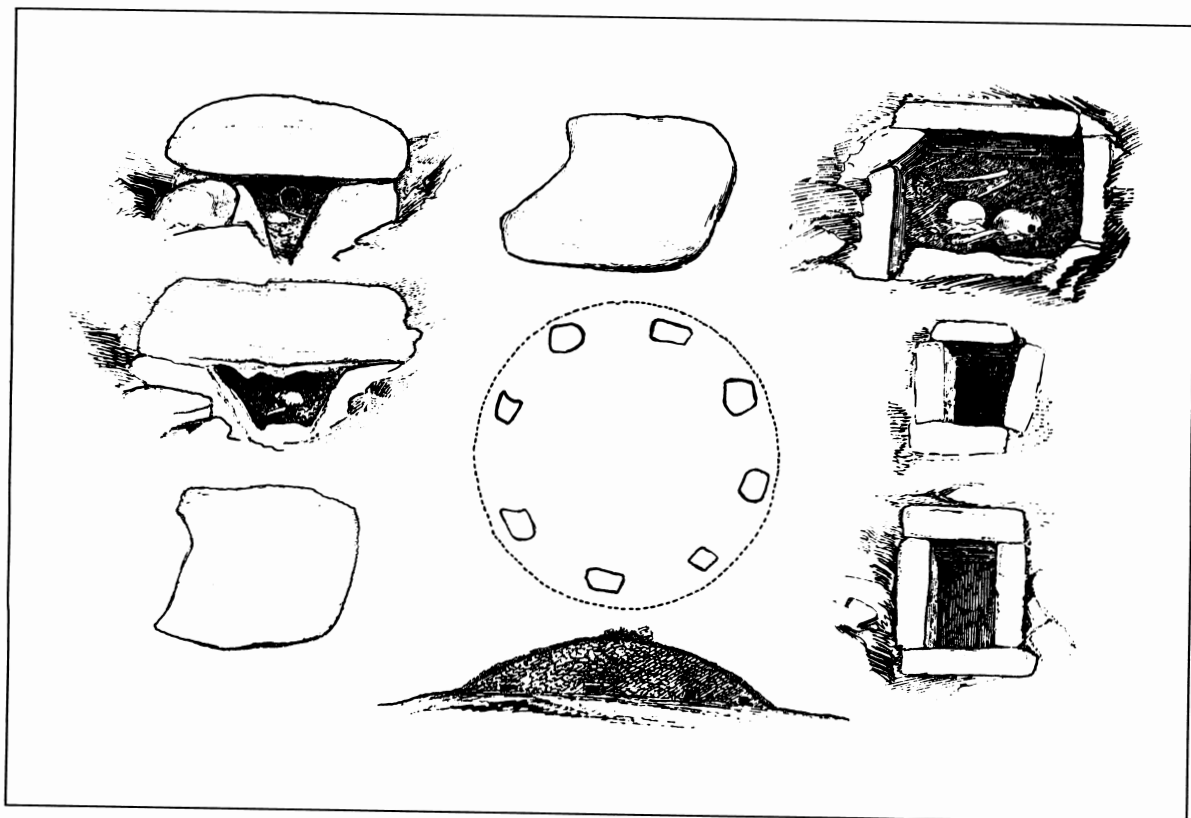


Fig. 97. Carryglass, Co. Tyrone (after Wakeman).

cordoned urn from this area (Kavanagh 45); 'two other urns were found in the same place some 60 years previously'. See Loughrey (below). *UJA* 32 (1969), 65.

KILSKEERY, Corkragh td., Co. Tyrone. OS 56

A short rectangular cist in a gravel ridge measured approximately 76 by 46 by 38cm deep, its long axis lay NE-SW. An inverted encrusted urn contained a cup (Kavanagh 68 and 43) and cremated bones, an inverted vase also contained cremated bones. A small cordoned urn stood mouth upwards beside the latter; a fragment of a fifth vessel was also found. The cremated bones represented an adult male and an adult female. *UJA* 2 (1939), 65.

CRANNOGUE, Co. Tyrone. OS 45
Two barrows, each with ditch, each contained a cist and cremated bones. *PPS* 23 (1957), 225.

'DUN RUADH', CROUCK, Co. Tyrone. OS 19
A badly disturbed cemetery mound (enclosed by a low bank and internal ditch) may have contained

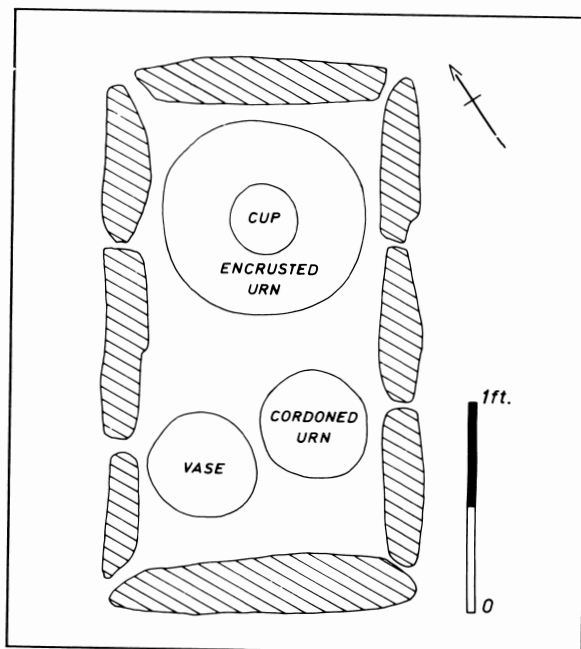


Fig. 98. Corkragh, Co. Tyrone (after Evans and Paterson)

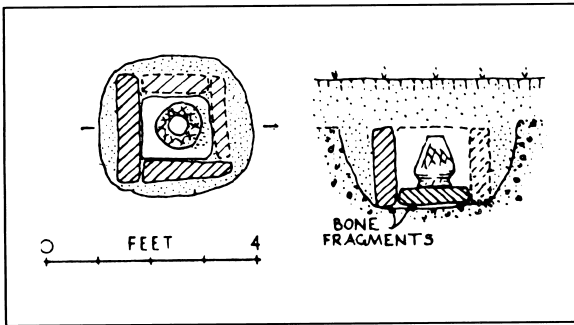


Fig. 99. Donacavey, Co. Tyrone (after Jope).

as many as 13 cists; at least 8 were of rectangular or sub-rectangular form. Seven bowls and a vase are preserved, at least one bowl was found with cremated bones (cist III). A Neolithic ritual site predated the mound. *JRSAI* 38 (1908), 188. Macalister, *Ireland in Pre-Celtic Times* (1921), 348 (inaccurate plan). *PBNHPS* 1 (1935–36), 50. Evans, *Prehistoric and Early Christian Ireland. A Guide* (1966), 201. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61.

CURGLASSAN, Co. Tyrone.

OS 39

An unprotected burial, presumably a simple pit, found in 1918, contained a bowl inverted on the cremated bones of an adult male. *UJA* 9 (1946), 138; 32 (1969), 61.

DONACAVEY, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 99.

OS 51

Short rectangular cist (36 by 43cm) with floor slab contained an inverted vase urn which held the cremated bones of an adult. Some bones found under side slabs of cist. *UJA* 15 (1952), 65.

DONAGHANIE, Co. Tyrone.

Fig. 100.

OS 43

A short rectangular cist found at Leap Bridge measured 94 by 53 by about 39cm deep, long axis E–W; it contained the unburnt remains of a young female 16–18 years (possibly disarticulated). *UJA* 23 (1960), 9.

DONAGHANIE, Co. Tyrone.

OS 35/43

A cairn contained 'within a circle of large stones, measuring seventy yards in circumference' was found to cover 'numerous sepulchral cells ... replete with such sculptured ornaments as are frequently found in cairn chambers'. The description of the site, by the Dungannon antiquarian John Bell, includes reference to a corbelled structure, which may have been a passage tomb. Two pottery vessels are preserved from the site, one is a bowl,

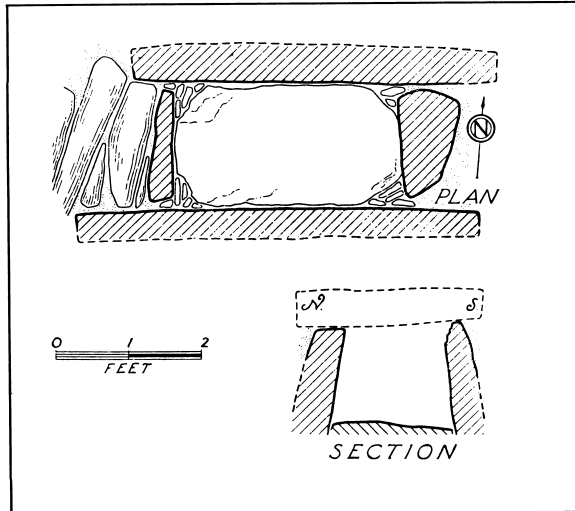


Fig. 100. Donaghane, Co. Tyrone (after Morton and Waterman).

the other of anomalous type; they were found with cremated bones. *PRIA* 3 (1845–7), 260. Wilde (1857), 186. *BAP* 1, fig. 291, II, fig. 562. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 163. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61. Herity, *Irish Passage Graves* (1974), 224.

DONAGHMORE, Co. Tyrone.

OS 46

Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 46) found with cremated bones; part of a polished bone pin is preserved with the bones. *UJA* 32 (1969), 65.

DRUDGEON, Co. Tyrone.

OS 42

Two burials about 13m apart (and a possible third) found during gravel digging in 1952: 1. Pit-burial: the pit was stated to have measured about 1.50m by 60cm, long axis NE–SW; it contained cremated bones and a bowl which lay on its side. 2. A possible pit grave: cremated bones and fragments of a bowl recovered. The bones were mixed together after discovery, the main bulk represent an adult. A flint knife was found among the bones. A third possible burial may also have been found but few details survive. *UJA* 15 (1952), 61.

DRUMHONISH, near Drumquin, Co. Tyrone.

OS 33/34

Bowl and cremated bones found in a cist. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 131.

DRUMNAKILLY, Co. Tyrone.

OS 35/36

In 1872 an extensive flat cemetery was found in a sandy deposit which varied in thickness from 0.46m to about 2.70m and which in turn had been

covered by some 1.50m of bog. Within an area 'the space of a square Irish perch' (about 30 sq m) ten cremated burials were found, in all but one or two instances the accompanying pottery vessel was reportedly inverted; in at least six instances the burials were in small cists (not described) and at least two were unprotected pit burials: 1. Cist containing vase urn. 2. Cist containing vase urn in which was found a biconical cup (Kavanagh 44) as well as cremated bones. 3. Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 70): no details of burial. 4. Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 69) which contained another vessel 'of a considerable size' (a vase?) which could not be preserved; it was unprotected and presumably in a simple pit-grave. 5. Collared urn (Kavanagh 39 and 47; Longworth 1984, no. 2239) 'in a rude cist'. 6. Vase urn from a cist. 7. Vase urn: no details of grave. 8. Vase urn(?) which apparently contained cremated bone and had been unprotected. 9. Vase urn found inverted in a cist, one of the stones of the floor of the cist bore three cup-marks: two on one face, one on the other. 10. Vase urn found inverted in a cist, again one of the floor stones bore two cupmarks, one on each face.

Three other stones bearing cup-marks were subsequently noted on the site, they had presumably been associated with some of the other graves. These urns were 'laid in two tiers, one urn exactly, or very nearly exactly over another, the vertical space between them being about two feet and a half. The lower tier was deposited in sand ... eight feet from the present surface ... The urns were in rows extending from east to west, and crossed at right angles by other rows'. Other cists and pottery vessels had previously been found in the vicinity of this site. *JRSAI* 12 (1872-73), 499.

DUNGATE, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 101. OS 28
Two cists found in a low gravel hillock. Cist 1 was approximately square and contained the disarticulated bones of an adult male. A bowl lay on its side, the mouth of the vessel in contact with the vault of the skull. This juxtaposition was believed to be deliberate. A few unburnt bones of a three year old and sherds of a second bowl were also found in this cist. A second cist (Cist 2) was found just over 2m to the north; it contained the cremated bones of a young individual, possibly female, and a small infant. *UJA* 40 (1977), 27.

GARVAGH, near Donaghmore, Co. Tyrone. OS 46
Bowl found with cremated bones. *JRSAI* 108

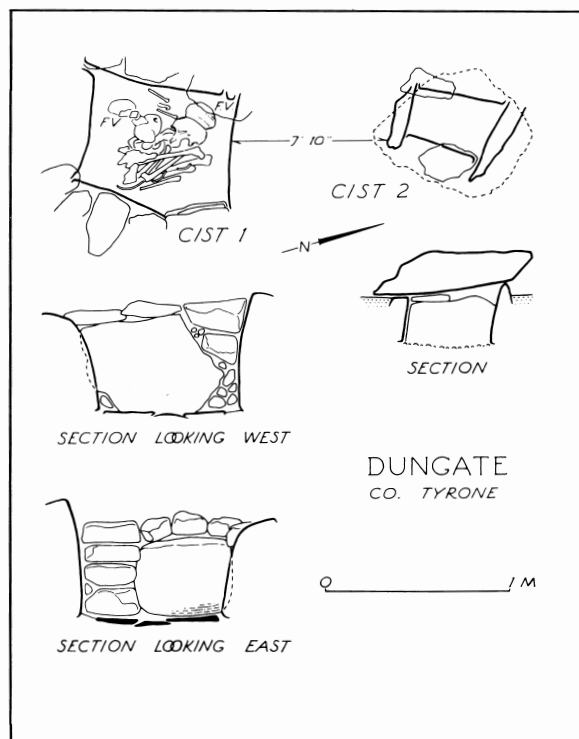


Fig. 101. Dungate, Co. Tyrone:
cist 1 and 2 (after Waterman and Brennan).

(1978), 45.

GLENCOPPOGAGH, Co. Tyrone. OS 11
Sherds of bowl and some few fragments of cremated bone preserved. No further details. UM.

GLENCULL, Co. Tyrone. OS 60
A cist was found and destroyed during the destruction of an early Historic ringfort in the course of sand quarrying operations. Four sherds of an urn and cremated bones were recovered. The bones were probably those of one adult male. *UJA* 23 (1960), 78.

GLENGA, Co. Tyrone. OS 11
A cist 'yielded cremated bones, stone beads, and a perforated bone needle'. *UJA* 2 (1939), 36.

GORTICRUM IRISH, Co. Tyrone. OS 5
A 'stone coffin' contained a bowl and an anomalous pot and cremated bones; the vessels stood at one end of the grave, the bones were found at the other. A sherd of a collared urn (Kavanagh 40; Longworth 1984, no. 2240) was found outside the

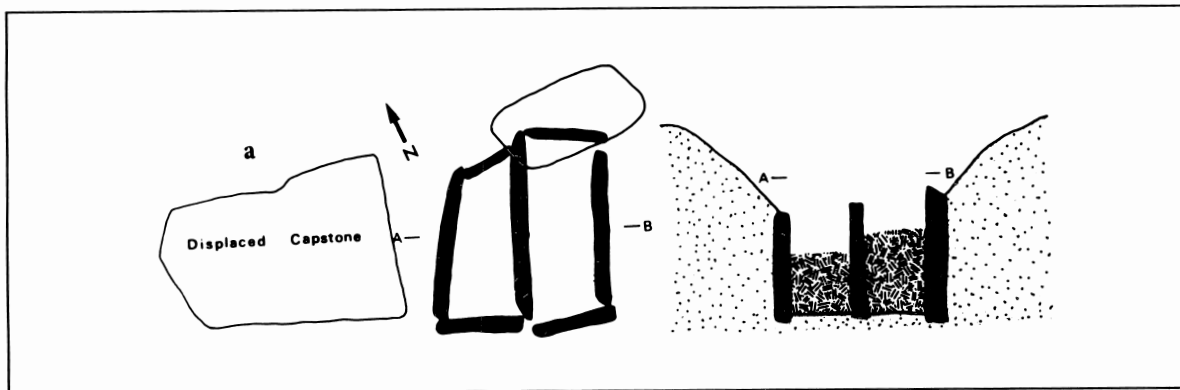


Fig. 102. Kinkit, Co. Tyrone (after Glover).

cist. *PRIA* 15 (1870–9), 17. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61.

GORTIN, Co. Tyrone.

OS 18

Two bowls were found in the 'Gap of Gorteen', one apparently with cremated bones. A sherd of a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 47) was found in the same area. No precise details of discovery. A sherd of an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 71) comes from this area. *BAP* 1, fig. 310 and 310a. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61.

GORTNAGARN, Co. Tyrone.

OS 37

An urn (lost), a vase and cremated bones found in a cist. No details. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 131.

KILCLAY, Co. Tyrone.

OS 59

A vase urn, lying on its side and containing cremated bones, was found in a small cist grave with paved floor. Two 'similar graves' reported from the vicinity; they were 'devoid of pottery and bones'. *JRSAI* 71 (1941), 112. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63.

KILLADROY, Co. Tyrone.

OS 43/51

Bowl, flat stone (uncertain lid) and cremated bones found in cist. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 131.

KILLUCAN, Co. Tyrone.

OS 28

A cairn contained two cists; one held an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 72) which was inverted and contained an 'openwork' cup (Kavanagh 45) and cremated bones; the other cist yielded a vase urn, inverted and containing cremated bones. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 131.

KILLYNEILL, Co. Tyrone.

OS 54

Two cordoned urns (Kavanagh 48–49) were found

about 1m apart in a gravel pit. They were both inverted, apparently in pits with cremations, and one contained a small, flat, roughly oval, double-perforated, bone object. *JRSAI* 56 (1926), 60. *UJA* 32 (1969), 65.

KINKIT, Co. Tyrone.

Fig. 102.

OS 16

A double cist of two sub-rectangular compartments 50 by 23cm and 54 by 28cm internally had its long axis NNE–SSW. Both compartments contained a mixture of soil, cremated bone and some charcoal; the bones represented two young adults of indeterminate age. A bone button and bone pin came from one compartment. Charcoal provided a C14 date of 1880 ± 280 bc. (UM). *JRSAI* 105 (1975), 150.

LECKPATRICK, Co. Tyrone.

OS 5

A number of burials found in the nineteenth century may, at least in part, have come from a flat cemetery: 1. A cist found c. 1863 was described as lying 'due north and south and ... formed of rough flagstones'; it contained two vases, one placed mouth upwards, at either end of the grave. Both vases contained fragments of cremated bone. 2. About six years later a vase was found 'under nearly the same circumstances, and in the same locality', i.e. presumably in a cist; this vase also contained some cremated bone. 3. In April 1882 portions of two vases (NMI. Reg. 1882: 233, 233a) were found according to the records of the National Museum of Ireland, 'beneath a rough heap of stones in the townland of Leck' (possibly Leckpatrick). One of these pots is figured by Abercromby with the provenance 'Leck, Leck-patrick'. 4. Nine feet to the east of this discovery a cist 'running due east and west 23 inches long, 25 wide and

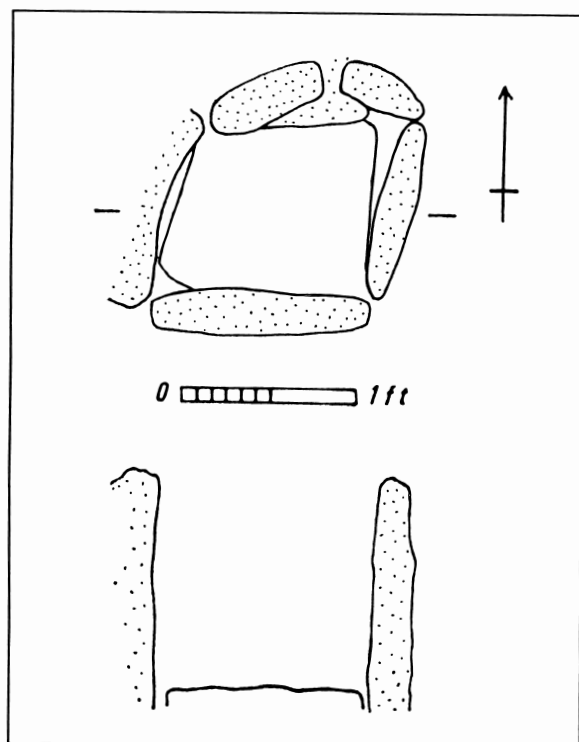


Fig. 103. Lislaird, Co. Tyrone (after Harper).

14 deep formed of stones covered by a slab' contained cremated bones and fragments of a fibrous substance possibly bark of *Quercus* or *Ulmus*. Sherds of a bowl may come from this cist. 5. A little to the east of this cist sherds of a vase urn and cremated bone were found in the following May. NMI. *JRSAI* 7 (1862-3), 304; 11 (1870-71), 29. *UJA* 32 (1969), 62. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 132 (s. v. Leck and MacCrackens).

LISLAIRD, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 103. OS 15/23 A small sub-rectangular cist contained the cremated remains of a young adult female. *UJA* 35 (1972), 65.

LOUGHASH, Co. Tyrone. OS 6 A cist contained a biconical accessory cup (Kavanagh 46). No further details. *JRSAI* 70 (1940), 144.

Near LOUGHRY, Co. Tyrone. OS 38 A short rectangular cist was found in 1800 'on top of an old mound of earth called the Moat'; the cist measured about 122 by 90cm according to the report and contained a 'food-vessel' and cremated bones. *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1802, pt. II, 1185.

Near LOUGHRY, Co. Tyrone. OS 38 A little to the west of a megalithic tomb (which produced a bowl or vase and a smaller pot) a short cist was found in a sand-ridge c. 1853. The stone chamber measured about 76cm in length, 51cm wide and deep, its long axis lay approximately E-W. At the bottom of the cist was a 17cm thick layer of 'dust and fragments of bones', apparently cremated. At the eastern end of this deposit stood a small pot 'so soft that it broke into pieces on being handled'. North-east of the megalithic tomb the discovery of an 'urn' in a sandpit is recorded. Lewis refers to the discovery of an urn 'covered with a large limestone slab and surrounded by six others' in 'a little sandy hill' near Cookstown. *JRSAI* 12 (1872-73), 203. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 621.

LOUGHRY, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 104. OS 38 A mound about 15m in diameter, which was an artificial enlargement of part of morainic ridge, covered a short rectangular cist. The cist measured about 86 by 61cm, long axis E-W, and it contained a bowl and the remains of the crouched (?) skeleton of a youth, head to E. The bones were greatly decayed and disturbed; the bowl had apparently been placed near the skull. *UJA* 4 (1941), 145.

LURGANBOY, Co. Tyrone. OS - A slab-covered pit contained a coarse undecorated urn and cremated bone. *JRSAI* 108 (1978), 49.

Near OMAGH, Co. Tyrone. OS 35 'Three small chests containing as many urns were found in 1712, under two heaps of stones'. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 621.

SANDVILLE, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 105. OS 2 An irregularly shaped cist was constructed of one slab (forming the S side wall) and rough dry stone walling; it had a roughly paved floor. It contained the skeleton of a young adult (position not recorded) and a bowl. *UJA* 23 (1960), 15; 32 (1969), 61.

SESKILGREEN, Co. Tyrone. OS 52 A vase urn was found in a sandpit, it was inverted in a pit and contained cremated bones. The base of another, unclassifiable, urn came from the same sandpit. *JRSAI* 92 (1962), 72.

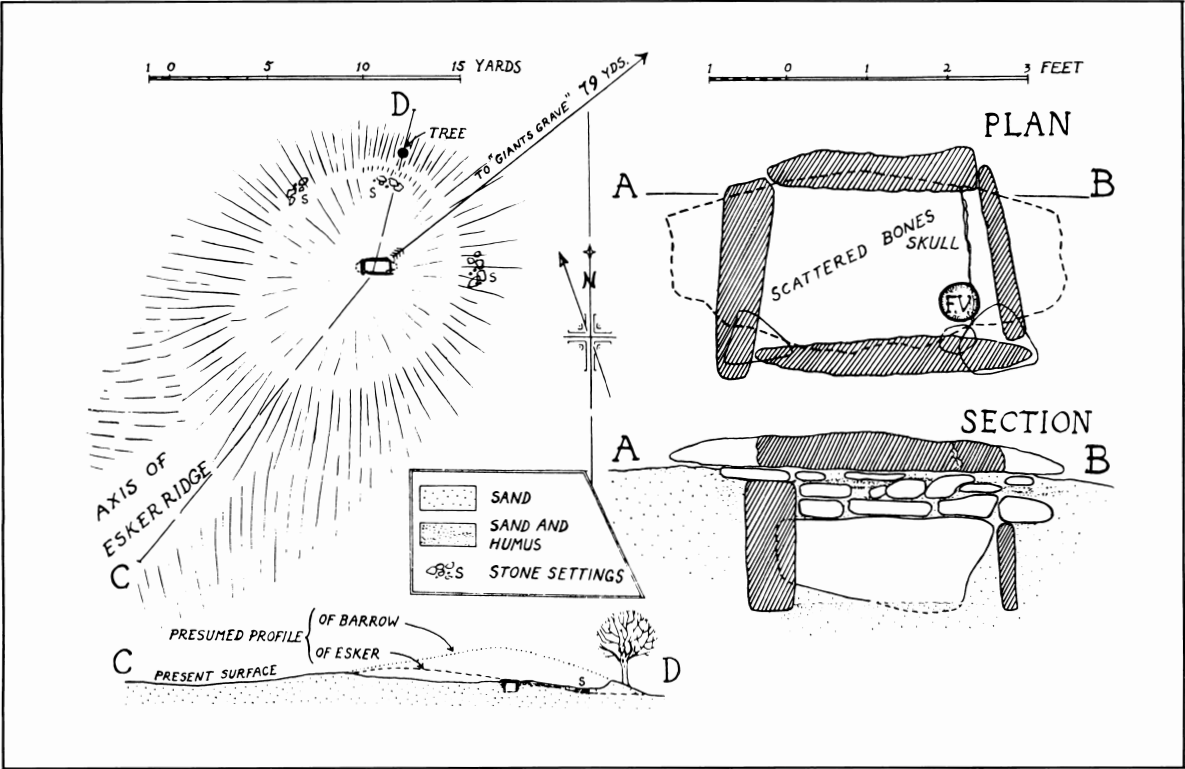


Fig. 104. Loughry, Co. Tyrone (after Evans).

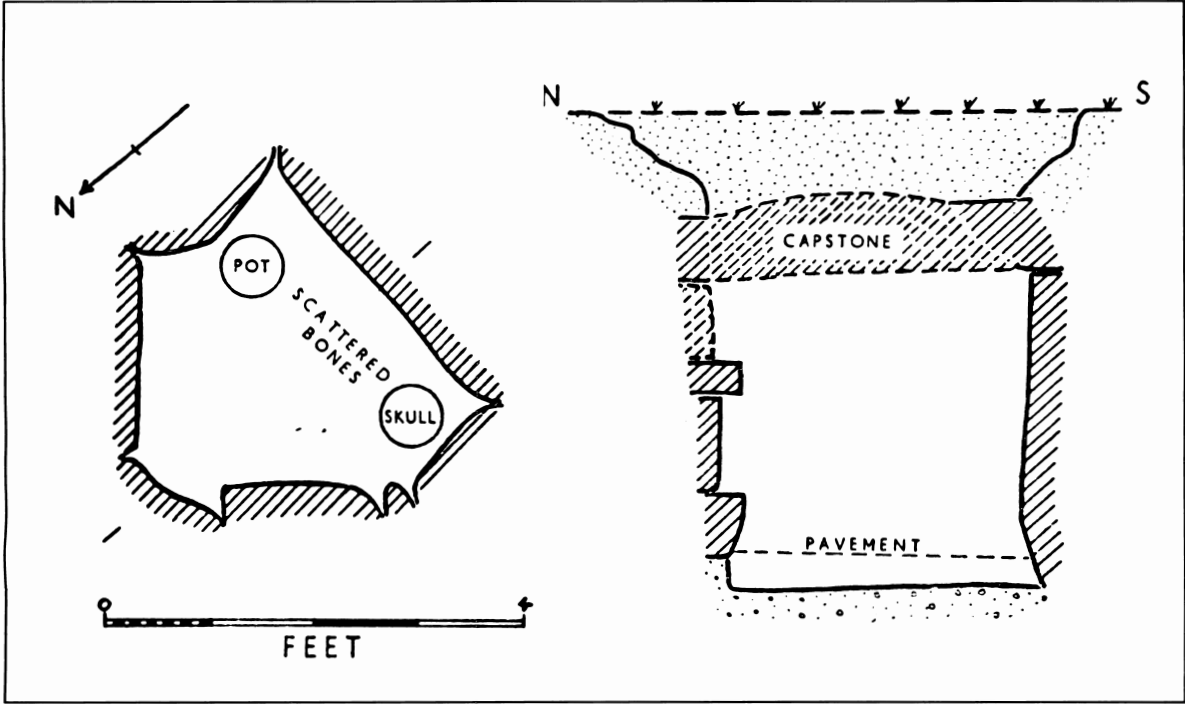


Fig. 105. Sandville, Co. Tyrone (after Wilson).

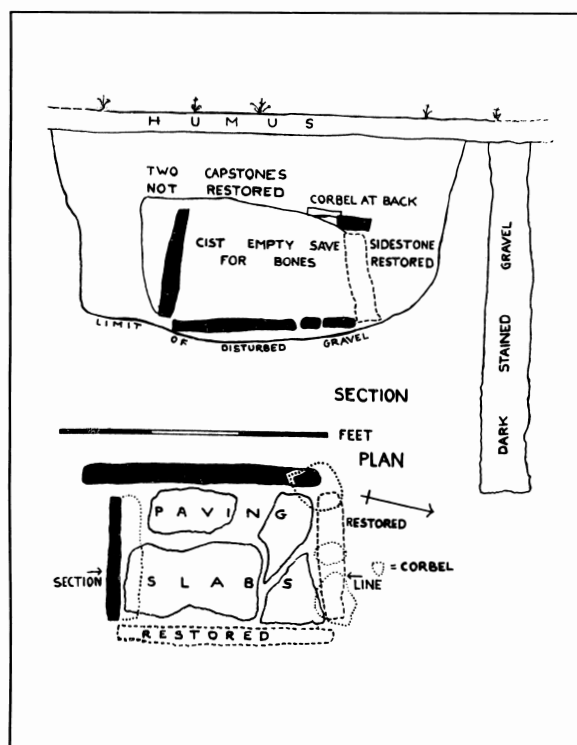


Fig. 106. Shananny East, Co. Tyrone
(after Davies and Henderson).

SHANONNY EAST, Co. Tyrone. Fig. 106.

OS 17

A short rectangular cist with paved floor, long axis approx. N-S, measured 69 by 61cm and 38cm deep; it contained the skeletal remains of a child 8-10 years (possibly crouched). *UJA* 4 (1941), 44.

SHESKINSHULE, Co. Tyrone.

OS 27

A cist, described as being about 60cm square, contained a bowl laying on its side and a possible cremation. A second cist containing a similar vessel was reportedly found in the vicinity. *UJA* 1 (1895), 254.

STANGMORE, Co. Tyrone.

OS 54/62

An encrusted urn was found in a sandpit in January, 1845; it was inverted, possibly in a pit. A plain urn '18 inches deep' was found in similar circumstances, inverted and covered by a slab, three days earlier. *Newry Telegraph* 14-1-1845, p. 3; 21-1-1845, p. 3. (Reference from R. Haworth). *IARF* 2 (1975), 26.

STRANAGALWILLY, Co. Tyrone.

OS 6/7

A small cemetery of at least three cists: several bowls found. Unpublished. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61.

TULLYDRAW, alias Tullydruid, Co. Tyrone.

OS 46

A short rectangular cist, found in a 'rath' known as Shane More's Fort, measured about 137 by 76cm and contained a 'crouched skeleton and an urn' (probably a bowl?). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 132.

TULLYVEAGH, Co. Tyrone.

OS 39

Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 50) found with miniature vessel and cremated bones. *UJA* 32 (1969), 65.

TULLYWIGGAN, Co. Tyrone.

OS 38

An encrusted urn (Kavanagh 75) was apparently found in a pit; the urn was inverted and contained cremated bones, it rested on a small slab and a small stone was placed on its base *UJA* 32 (1969), 64.

TURNABARSON, Co. Tyrone.

OS 45

A collared urn (Kavanagh 41; Longworth 1984, no. 2241) possibly from a tumulus. *UJA* 32 (1969), 64.

WOODEND, Co. Tyrone.

OS 5

Five cists were discovered in a sand-ridge in the 1930s. No details are known about the first three found except that they contained only cremated bones. The fourth was a short rectangular structure found 36cm below the surface; it was slab-built, the sides consisting of double slabs, it was roofed by two capstones, one on top of the other. It measured approximately 84cm in length and its longer axis lay approximately N-S. On the paved floor lay a deposit of cremated bone representing an adult female of 25-30 years; with the bones was found a triangular flint with some secondary working. A fifth cist was destroyed but the cremated bones it had contained were identified as those of an adult; the bones had been placed in a vessel with vase affinities. All the cists lay within a few metres of each other and evidently constituted a small flat cemetery. *UJA* 3 (1940), 162.

Near BALLYNAMULT, Co. Waterford.

OS 13

In 1786 Charles Vallancey illustrated a vase which he described as 'an urn of baked earth and very rude workmanship; it was found near Baalnamolt, on the mountains between Clonmel and Capouquin, under a small tumulus, with the mouth downwards, covering some black earth stained by the burnt ashes of the corpse, and part of the bone and

skull of a youth not burnt'. Vallancey, *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*, Vol. IV (1786), 42.

BISHOPSTOWN, Co. Waterford.

OS 7

A 'stone-built cist' had been constructed in an oval pit which measured approximately 145 by 109cm and 50cm in depth; the cist was destroyed and no details survive. It had contained the cremated remains of at least three individuals, two adults and a youth 15–16 years old; also found were the remains of three vases. The possibility of the existence of other graves in the immediate vicinity is recorded. *JCHAS* 44 (1939), 117.

CORBALLY BEG, Co. Waterford.

OS 27

A vase and human bones were found in an ill-described structure which may have been a large cist: the removal of 'a pillar stone surrounded by two or three irregularly laying boulders' revealed a large slab measuring some 150 by 90cm which 'rested like a table-top upon three low uprights'. In the centre of the grave the vase was placed in an inverted position; human bones (no further details given) were also found. Several rounded pebbles were found in the grave and a pit containing ashes was found nearby. *J. Waterford A.S.* 10 (1907), 320. *BAP* 1, fig. 385.

CORRADOON, Co. Waterford.

OS 13

Encrusted urn (Kavanagh 76) found inverted in a pit covered by a flat stone; the urn contained the cremated bones of a child, 8–10 years. Sherds of a small accessory vessel were found with the burial. *JRSAI* 101 (1971), 220.

DUNHILL, Co. Waterford.

OS 25

A short cist described as square and 60cm across and 46cm deep with paved floor; it contained an undecorated urn about 38cm high and cremated bones. *J. Waterford A. S.* 1 (1895), 188.

HARRISTOWN, Co. Waterford.

Fig. 107. OS 27

Some seven secondary burials found in a passage tomb mound; it is not certain whether or not the primary mound was enlarged to contain some of these graves. All were unprotected except, possibly, no. 3: 1. Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 51) in a pit, it lay on its side, facing the mound and it contained the cremated bones of a young adult male. 2. Inverted cordoned urn (Kavanagh 53) in a pit, it contained the cremated bones of a young adult male, a bronze knife, a quoit-shaped faience bead and a

ring-headed bone pin. 3. A bowl found lying on its side contained some cremated bone representing a middle-aged male, the burial was protected by two slabs, possibly the remains of a cist. 4. Sherds of an unclassifiable urn and cremated bone of an adult; the sherds were greatly weathered. 5. A cordoned urn (Kavanagh 52), mouth upwards, contained the cremation of an 8–10 year old child, probably male, and a biconical cup (Kavanagh 50). 6. A pit contained two distinct deposits of cremated bone: one, in the bottom, consisted of the incompletely burnt remains of two young adult males accompanied by a ring-headed bone pin; in the upper part of the pit a deposit of more thoroughly cremated bone represented a young male adult. 7. Two shallow depressions, one covered by a stone slab, contained the cremated bones of one middle-aged male. *JRSAI* 71 (1941), 130.

KILBRIDE, Co. Waterford.

OS 17/26

An unornamented 'urn' and cremated bones were found in a flag-lined cist. *J. Waterford A. S.* 1 (1895), 173.

KILLEENAGHMOUNTAIN, Co. Waterford.

Fig. 4. (collared urn burial).

OS 34

In 1967 a small vessel with cordoned urn affinities was found in a sand and gravel quarry; it was inverted on a stone in a pit and no bones were noted. In 1974, about 12m SSE of this vessel, a collared urn (Kavanagh 42; Longworth 1984, no. 2242) was found: it was inverted on a stone in a pit and contained a small amount of cremated bone representing a child. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 180; 105 (1975), 147.

KILWATERMOY, Co. Waterford.

OS 33

A rectangular cist described as measuring about 122 by 91cm contained two encrusted urns (Kavanagh 77–78); each was inverted and contained cremated bones, each 'lay upon its own proper flagstone and around the vessels was a packing of spawls'. A looped bronze spear-head was found about 3m away. *JRSAI* 61 (1931), 57.

LISNAKILL, Co. Waterford.

OS 17

Beneath a heap of stones and a stone set upright, a small cavity contained a small urn about six inches high with bones and ashes in it; it also contained a gold armlet of Melfort type. Another small vessel was also found at the same time, c. 1725. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 249. *Ant. Jour.* 49 (1969), 10.

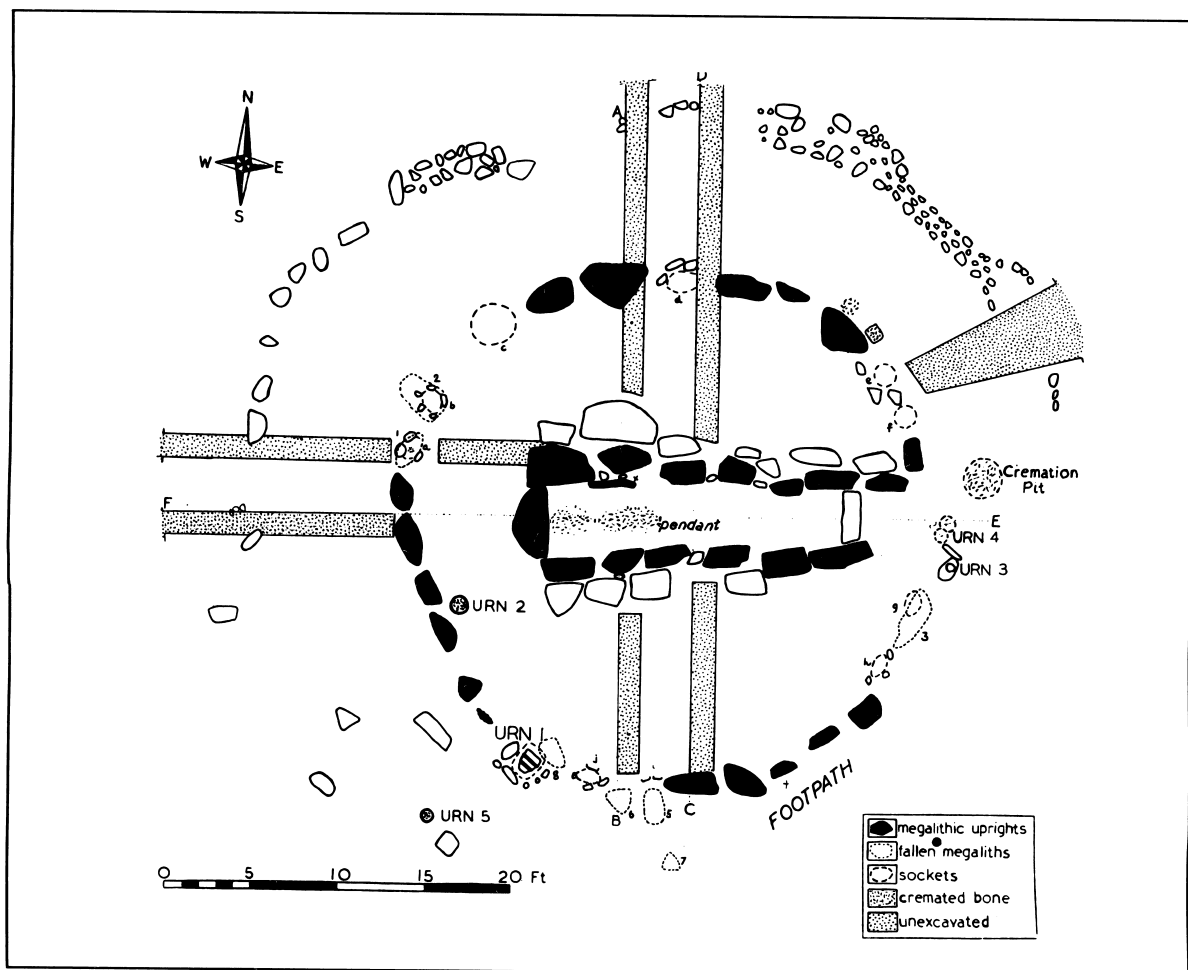


Fig. 107. Harristown, Co. Waterford (after J. Hawkes).

Near PORTLAW, Co. Waterford.

OS 8

'A primeval kist' held human remains and a 'perfectly baked clay urn which contained those remains' (which were presumably cremated). *JRSAI* 13 (1874-5), 240.

RATHNASKILLOGE, Co. Waterford.

OS 24

A possible vase urn is recorded as having been found 'in a cist with cremated bone'. Only sherds of the vessel are preserved and no further details of the grave recorded. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 133.

RING, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

OS 36

A large urn containing cremated bones was found under a large stone in a field. The discovery of a small urn and a number of larger vessels inverted on flags is also recorded. A vase and sherd of another are preserved in NMI. *JRSAI* 13 (1874-5), 436, 481.

ADAMSTOWN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 25/32

Five small cists containing 'only human bones' found. Vallancey, *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis* Vol. vi (1805), 302. *Ant. Jour.* 49 (1969), 9.

ARDBALLYMORE, Co. Westmeath.

OS 37

A short rectangular cist found in 1956 on top of a gravel hillock, 91 by 46cm, long axis NW-SE; contained a bowl and cremated bones. Said to have been at least half filled with sand, through which bones were mixed. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 133.

BALLYBRENNAN, Co. Westmeath.

Fig. 108-109.

OS 32

A flat cemetery of four cists, found in a gravel ridge over a number of years between 1940 and 1948: 1. Short rectangular, 50 by 30 by 30cm deep, long axis E-W; contained disturbed unburnt bones of a child. 2. 7.5m from no. 1, short rectangular, 65 by

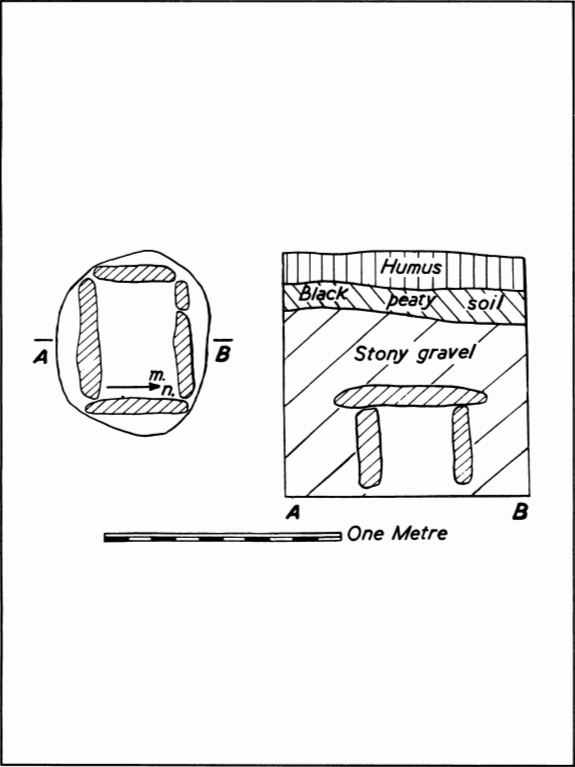


Fig. 108. Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath, cist 1 (after Prendergast)

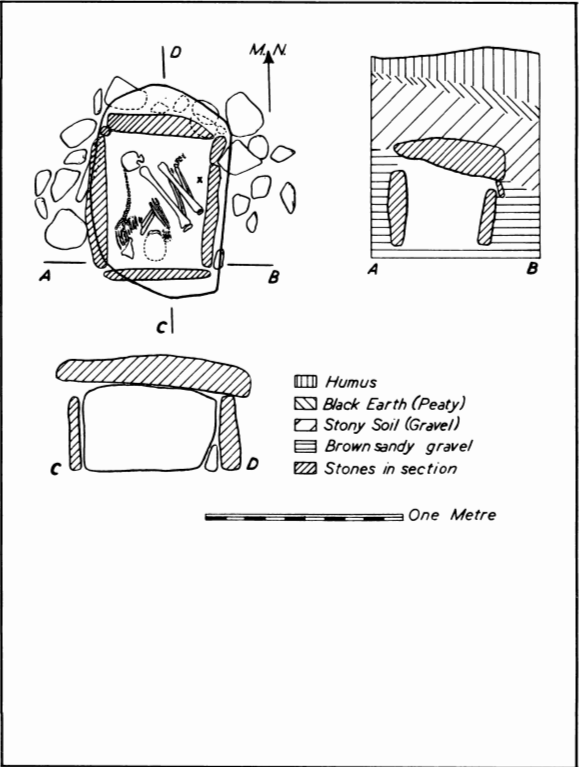


Fig. 109. Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath, cist 2 (after Prendergast).

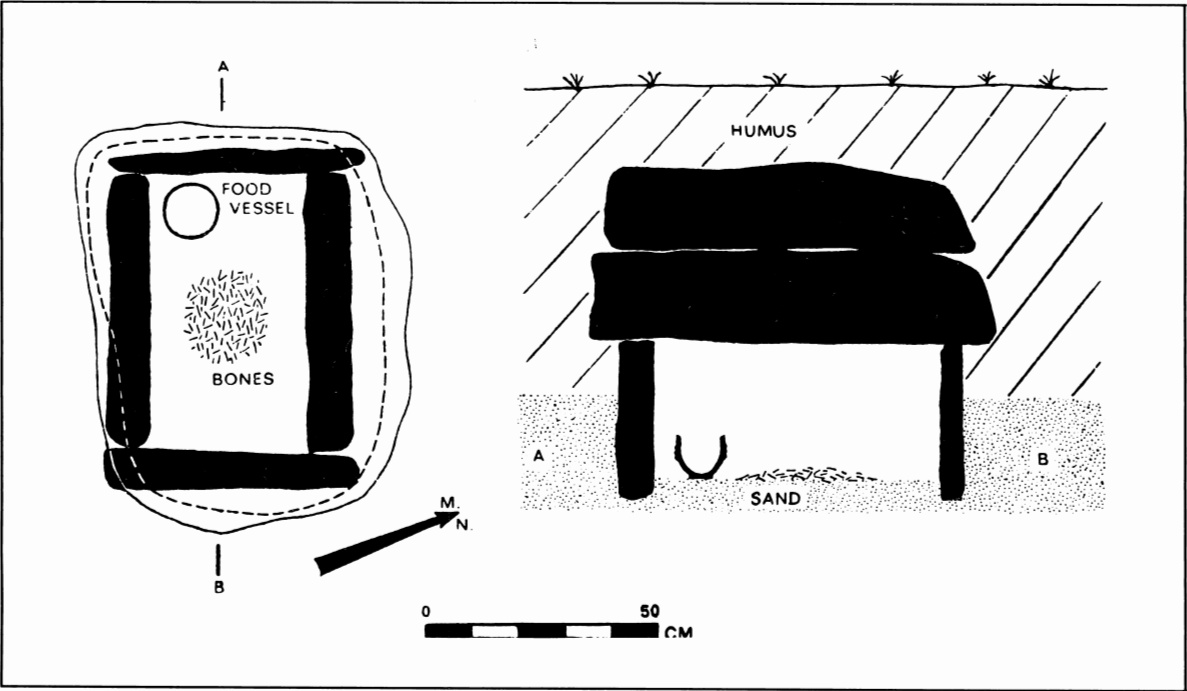


Fig. 110. Ballykilroe, Co. Westmeath (after J. Raftery).

50 by 40cm deep, long axis N-S; contained crouched skeleton of a child c. 14 years, lying on right side, skull to S; a flint fragment and some shells were also found. (A few ox-bones were found in the vicinity of cists 1, 2 and 3). 3. 6.5m S of no. 2; short rectangular, 90 by 48cm, long axis approx. E-W; contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male with mild osteo-arthritis lying on its left side, head to E, facing S; a bowl was found in front of the face. A deposit of cremated bone was placed on the knees of the skeleton. 4. 3-4m from no. 3; short rectangular, 65 by 50cm, long axis E-W, floor-slabs; contained cremated bone, a vase and four flint scrapers. *NMI. JRSAI* 75 (1945), 107; 97 (1967), 79, 84; 100 (1970), 133.

BALLYKILROE, Co. Westmeath. Fig. 110. OS 32 A short rectangular cist, long axis WNW-ESE, measured 60 by 34cm internally, and was roofed by two capstones – one on top of the other. A bowl stood mouth upwards in the NW corner; a circular pile of cremated bones and some unburnt ones lay in the centre of the cist. The burnt bones were those of a child of 10-12 years, the unburnt pieces were parts of the left and right foot and a fragment of a fibula of an adult. *JRSAI* 103 (1973), 188.

BARRETTSTOWN, Co. Westmeath. OS 25 A tumulus (? oval) covered two cists – possibly a double cist. One is described as roughly pentagonal, it contained the crouched skeleton of a middle-aged male, three animal teeth were reportedly found; a deposit of cremated bone was found on the capstone of this cist. This deposit was protected by a slab. The second cist, apparently 'divided by an upright flag' from the first, contained the crouched skeleton of an adult, a bowl (standing near the legs) and part of the tusk of a wild boar. *PRIA* 7 (1857-61), 89. *JRSAI* 14 (1876-8), 178; 100 (1970), 133 (listed under Barrettstown and Dysart).

BENALBIT AND DERRYROE, Co. Westmeath. OS 32 Short rectangular cist, with massive capstone 130 by 118 by 20cm thick; measured 80 by 65cm internally, long axis almost N-S; contained an unburnt burial, disturbed or disarticulated. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 133.

'CARNFEEHY', near Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

OS 24/25 A flat cemetery of five cists was found in 1748, pos-

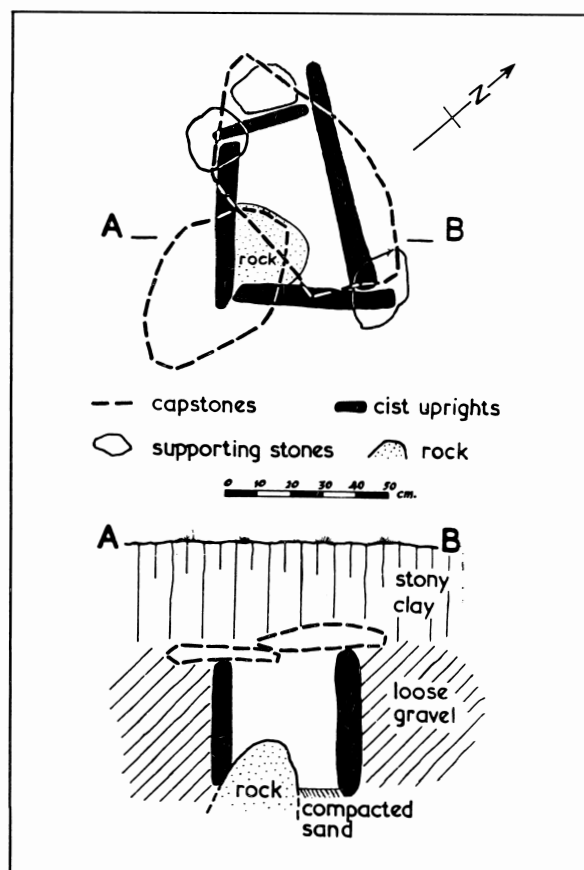


Fig. 111. Cartenstown (cist 3), Co. Westmeath (after Rynne).

sibly in the townland of Carn; one cist contained the bones of an individual 'of a size greatly above the common proportion of men' and 'an urn of yellow clay', the other cists contained 'only human bones'. *Arch.* 2 (1773), 632. Brewer, *The Beauties and Antiquities of Ireland*, Vol. II, 1826, 248. Macalister, *Ireland in Pre-Celtic Times* (1921), 343. *Ant. Jour.* 49 (1969), 9.

CARTENSTOWN, Co. Westmeath. Fig. 111.

OS 13 A small flat cemetery of three cists: 1. Cist found and destroyed in 1957, possibly empty. 2. Short rectangular cist, 63 by 48cm, long axis N-S; contained a crouched skeleton on its right side. No. 2 was found 1-2m from no. 1. 3. Found 6.7m N of cist no. 2; short sub-rectangular, 47 by 32cm, long axis NW-SE; one end of each slab overlapped with one end of one adjoining slab; contained the unburnt bones of a child 10-11 years. *Ríocht na*

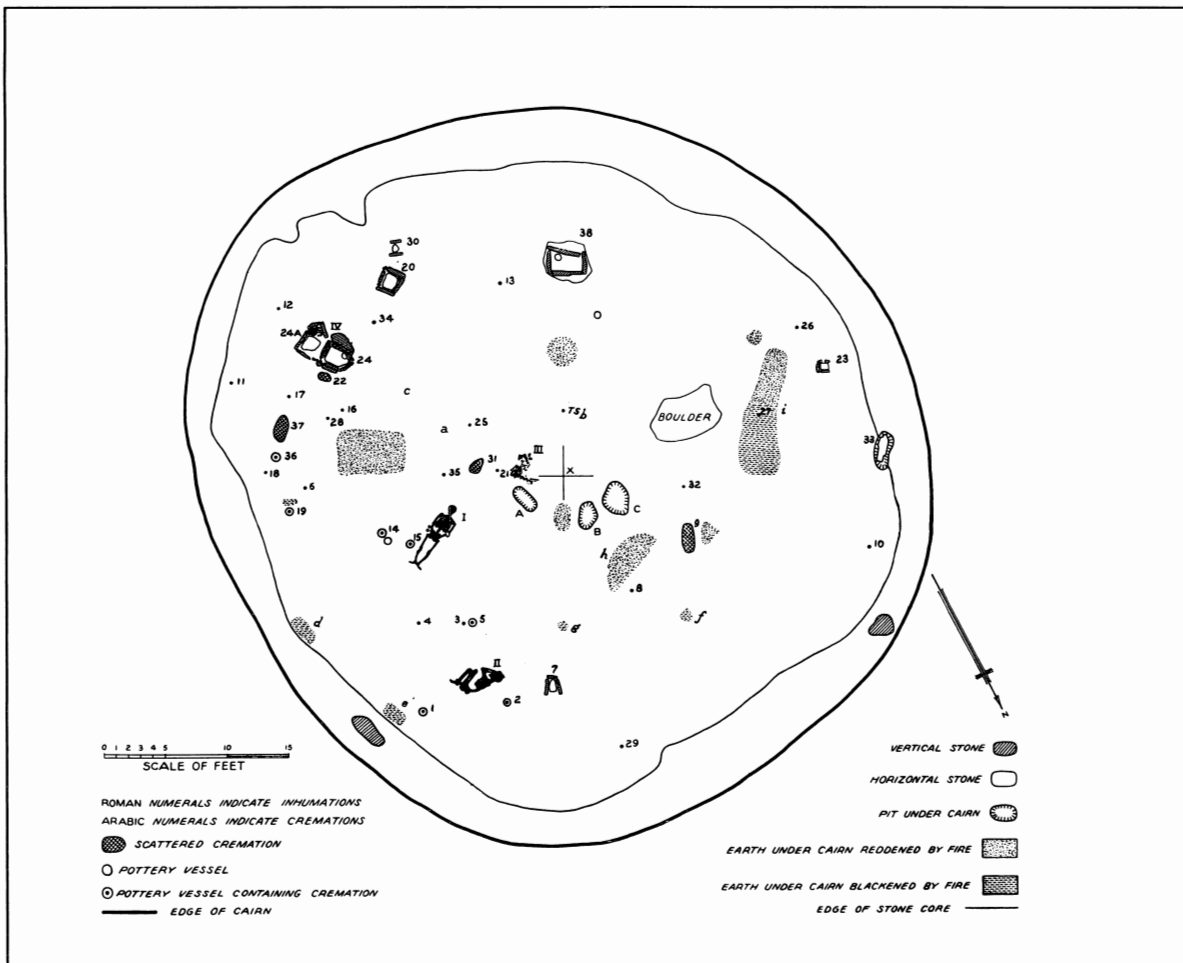


Fig. 112. Knockast, Coolatore, Co. Westmeath (after Hencken).

Midhe, Vol. 2, no. 1 (1959), 49; Vol. 2, no. 4 (1962), 35. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 134.

CLONICKILVANT, Co. Westmeath. OS 20
An oval pit measuring 80 by 60 by 45cm deep contained cremated bones and some charcoal. A second, apparently similar, burial was found nearby and was destroyed. *JRSAI* 97 (1967), 11. *Ríocht na Midhe*, 3 (1963–66), 256.

CLONICKILVANT, Co. Westmeath. OS 20
A human skeleton and a bowl found in a cist. *NMI. Westmeath Examiner*, 18th August 1979.

CONRANSTOWN, Co. Westmeath. OS 25
A short rectangular cist, 100 by 63cm, long axis E–

W; contained part of a disarticulated human skeleton (a re-burial?) and two fragments of cremated bone – one reportedly with verdigris stains. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 134.

KNOCKAST, Coolatore, Co. Westmeath.

Fig. 112.

OS 31
A low flat-topped mound about 18.3m in diameter contained 4 unburnt and 39 cremated burials (one unburnt burial – no. 1 – is possibly not Bronze Age); four cists found. A pig's tusk was found with one of the unburnt burials and finds with cremations included an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 79), several decayed urns (one possibly a vase urn), a vase urn, a cordoned urn (Kavanagh 56), a bowl, a vase, bone cylinders, a plano-convex flint knife,

bronze razors, etc. Three pits beneath the centre of the cairn contained earth, charcoal and bones of domestic ox, horse, and sheep or goat; traces of fires were also noted beneath the mound. A bone pin was a stray find. Most of the burials were found in the E and S parts of the mound. *PRIA* 41 C (1934), 232.

CORNAHER, Co. Westmeath.

OS 38/39

A stone cist contained 'two similar urns, with a heap of calcined bones between them'. *JRSAI* 7 (1862-3), 145.

CROOKEDWOOD, Co. Westmeath.

OS 12

A small flat (?) cemetery of five burials, poorly recorded: 1. A crouched skeleton (of a young adult male) and a bowl recovered from a cist grave 1.22m across which was described by the finders as of 'beehive-construction'. 2. Unprotected unburnt burial of a child. 3. Crouched skeleton of a young female adult, lying on right side, head to N. Unprotected but with some stones 25cm in diameter placed on the body; it was found at a depth of some 2.1m below the surface. 4. An unprotected cremated burial covered by a few stones was found at a depth of 1.4m. 5. Some 2m from no. 4, a crouched skeleton (of an adult male) found lying on its right side. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 102.

EDMONDSTOWN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 20

Short rectangular cist, about 91 by 30 by 30cm deep with paved floor, a vase containing cremated bones was found. A second cist containing a bowl and a cremation was also found. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 134.

EMPER, Co. Westmeath.

OS 10

'A dozen stone-lined cists' reported, a few bones and traces of 'ashes' found. *JRSAI* 68 (1938), 146.

GREATDOWN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 19/27

Human bones and a bowl reported from a cist in 1979. NMI.

HIGHTOWN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 26/27

A vessel, about 25cm high, containing cremated bones was found in a gravel pit; it was destroyed; the discovery of four human skeletons and others 'found in the same field' is recorded. No details survive. NMI.

HUNTINGDON, Co. Westmeath.

OS 20

A cist contained a crouched skeleton which was re-buried elsewhere. No further details. *JRSAI* 100

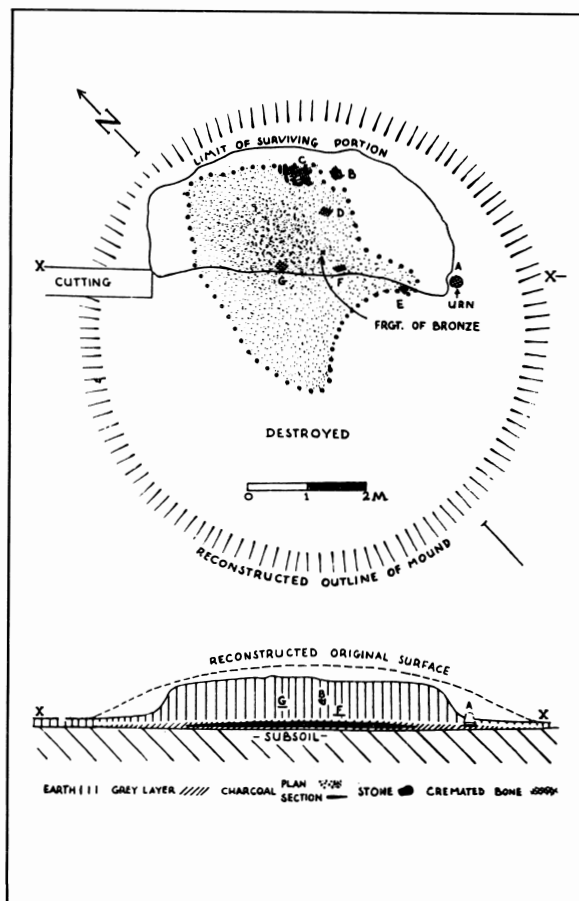


Fig. 113. Kilmore, Co. Westmeath (after Prendergast).

(1970), 134.

KEOLTOWN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 25

Sherds of bowl and some cremated bone recovered from a small, disturbed, trapezoidal cist. *Ríocht na Midhe* 7 (1982-3), 86.

KILGAROAN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 37

A short rectangular cist found in 1956; 60 by 50cm, long axis E-W; W end formed by two slabs placed one outside the other; contained an unburnt burial. No precise details. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 134.

Near KILLUCAN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 20

Bowl found c. 1862 in a cist in a sand-pit. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 134.

KILMORE, Co. Westmeath. Fig. 113.

OS 2

A low circular mound about 8m in diameter and 1m high was greatly damaged before investigation; the surviving portion of the mound contained four

burials (A–D) and three small pockets of cremated bone (E–G): A. A cordoned urn (Kavanagh 54) inverted on a flat stone, contained the cremated bones of an adult. B. Cremation of one adult. C. A deposit of cremated bones representing an adult, a youth and an infant; two bronze razors were found among the bones which had been placed within a U-shaped setting of stones 40cm across. D. Small deposit of cremated adult bones. E–G. Three small patches of cremated bone representing at least five skeletons. Also found were two sherds of an 'openwork' cup (Kavanagh 51) and a fragment of thin bronze. *JRSAI* 90 (1960), 5.

KNOCKMANT, Co. Westmeath. Fig. 114.

OS 27

Five unprotected extended skeletal burials were found in the course of sand-quarrying; they were all orientated approx. NW–SE, heads to the SE, they all lay parallel to one another. A sherd of coarse urn-like pottery was found near the shoulder of one skeleton. Near another, which was much disturbed by tree roots, a cremation was accompanied by a vase. The cremation, presumably placed unprotected in a pit-grave, consisted of an oval deposit of bone measuring 28 by 15cm and 12cm thick; the vase stood mouth upwards beside it. The cremated bones were those of a young adult female. All the burials lay within an area 6m by 4m; the skeletal burials may be of Bronze Age date or may be considerably later. *JRSAI* 99 (1969), 125.

MILL LAND, Co. Westmeath. Fig. 115. OS 20
A short sub-rectangular cist measuring only about 50 by 30cm had one end of each side slab overlapping one end of another, its long axis lay NNE–SSW. The cremated bones of one adult individual and a bowl were recovered. *Ríocht na Midhe* 3, (1963–66), 114.

MILLTOWN, Co. Westmeath.

OS 25

A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton and a bowl. The skeleton lay on its right side, head to SSW and the bowl stood mouth upwards in front of the skull. NMI.

PALLASBOY, Co. Westmeath.

OS 39

Three cists, at least two of which were short rectangular, were found in a sand-ridge in 1951; they contained unburnt human burials and were destroyed. A possible flat cemetery. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 135.

PETITSWOOD, Co. Westmeath.

OS 19

A bowl was found with a skeleton in a sand-pit. NMI.

RACKAVRA, Co. Westmeath.

OS 24

A small cist, which was destroyed, was said to have measured about 46cm square; it was constructed of four slabs, floor slab and two capstones, one superimposed on the other. It contained an inverted bowl and human bones (latter not preserved, but apparently cremated). *Ríocht na Midhe* 3 (1963–66), 223. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 121.

RAHINASHUROCK, Co. Westmeath.

Fig. 116.

Plate 2.

OS 38

A short sub-rectangular cist, 110 by 60cm, long axis N–S, contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male, lying on its left side facing E, head to N. A cremation, apparently in a pit, was found about 60cm to the E of the cist; a bronze razor, a bone pin and a perforated bone object were found with the cremated bones. *Ríocht na Midhe* 3 (1963–66), 225.

RAHUGH, Co. Westmeath.

OS 38/40

A short rectangular cist, found in a gravel-ridge c. 1903, with floor-slab, measured about 81 by 56 by 46cm deep; long axis NW–SE. The cist contained two 'pots' (no details known) and some cremated bone (NMI 1927:102). *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 135.

RATHBENNETT, Co. Westmeath. Fig. 117.

OS 11

A tumulus measuring about 11m in diameter and 2m in height was excavated in a day in 1931. At a depth of about 76cm below the summit of the mound three slabs were found one on top of the other. These slabs rested on the capstone of a small rectangular cist, long axis N–S. At one end, the side stones of the cist projected 23cm beyond the end slab and the space thus formed was filled by a slab (at a level with the mouth of the cist); another flagstone lay beside this slab, nothing was found beneath them. The cist which measured only about 63 by 36cm contained 'the almost comminuted fragments of a human skeleton' scattered throughout the fill of the cist. The bones are noted to have been unburnt and some fragments were found above the capstone. Bones of rat and frog were found in the grave. The size of the cist, the nature of the remains and the presence of verdigris stains on a few bones led the excavators to suppose the reburial of a disarticulated skeleton. Two bowls

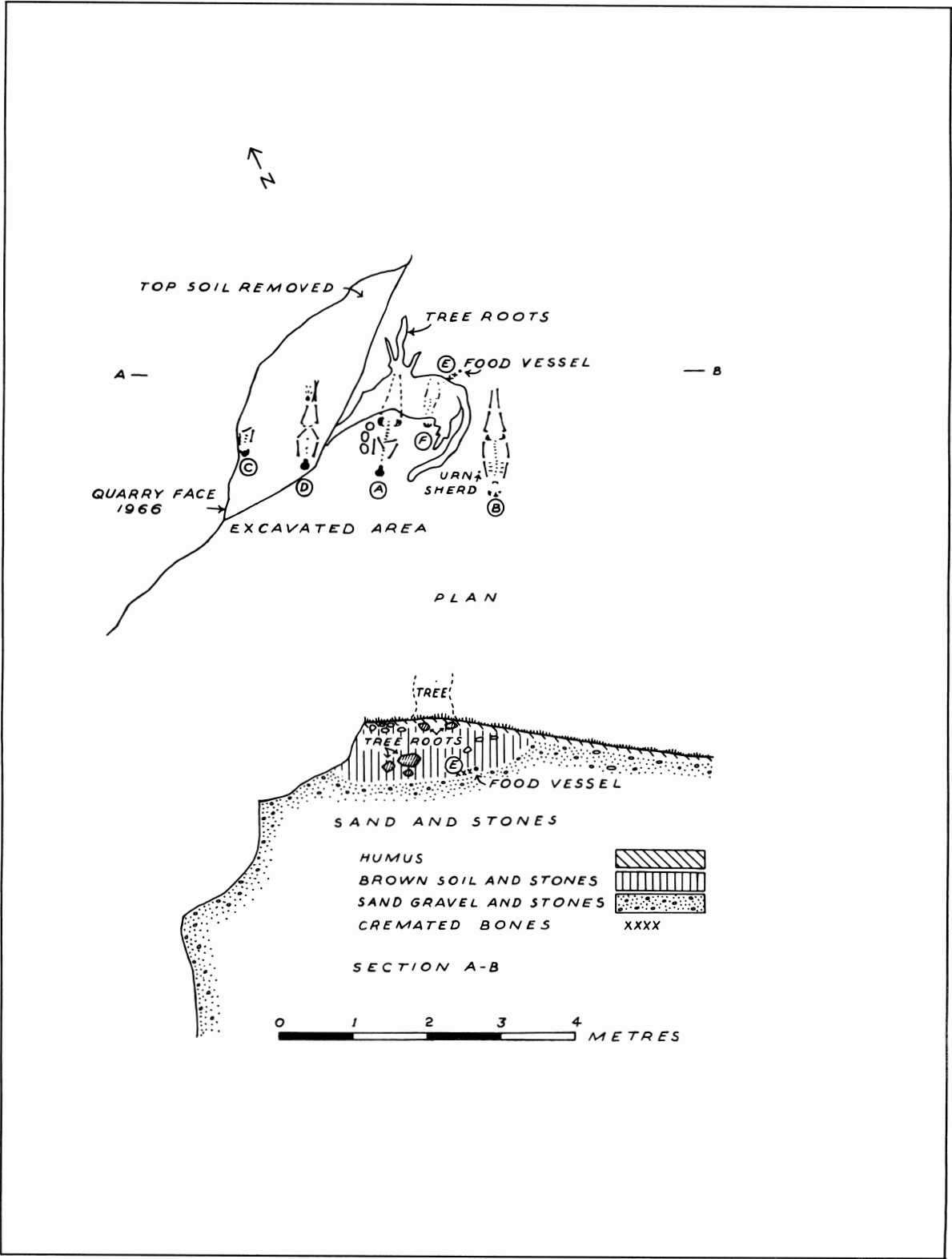


Fig. 114. Knockmant, Co. Westmeath (after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

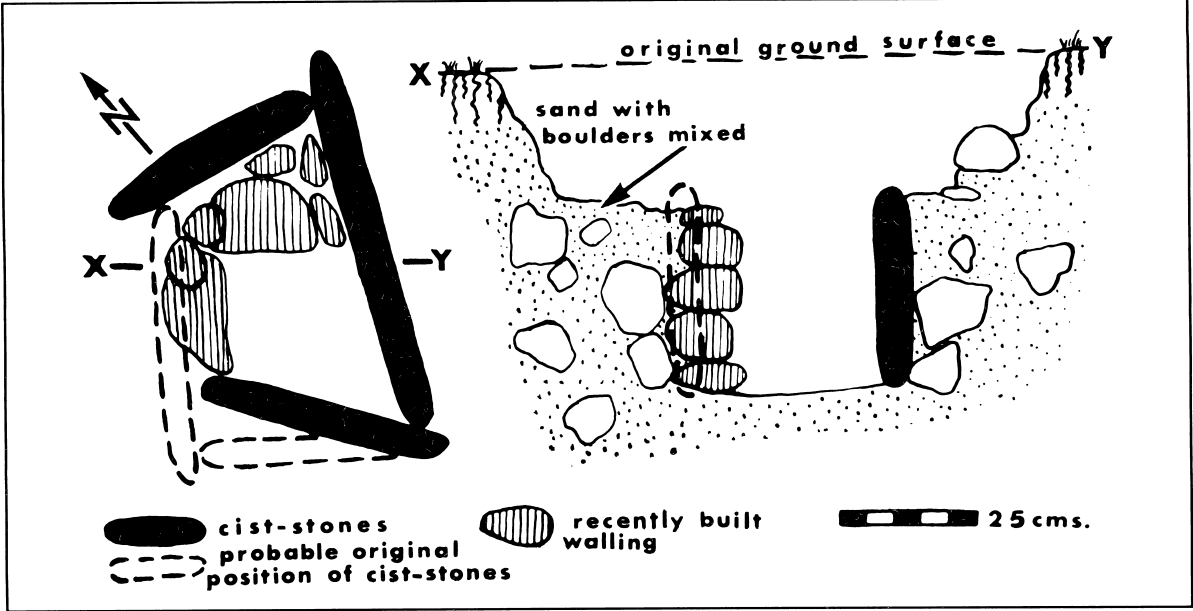


Fig. 115. Mill Land, Co. Westmeath (after Rynne).

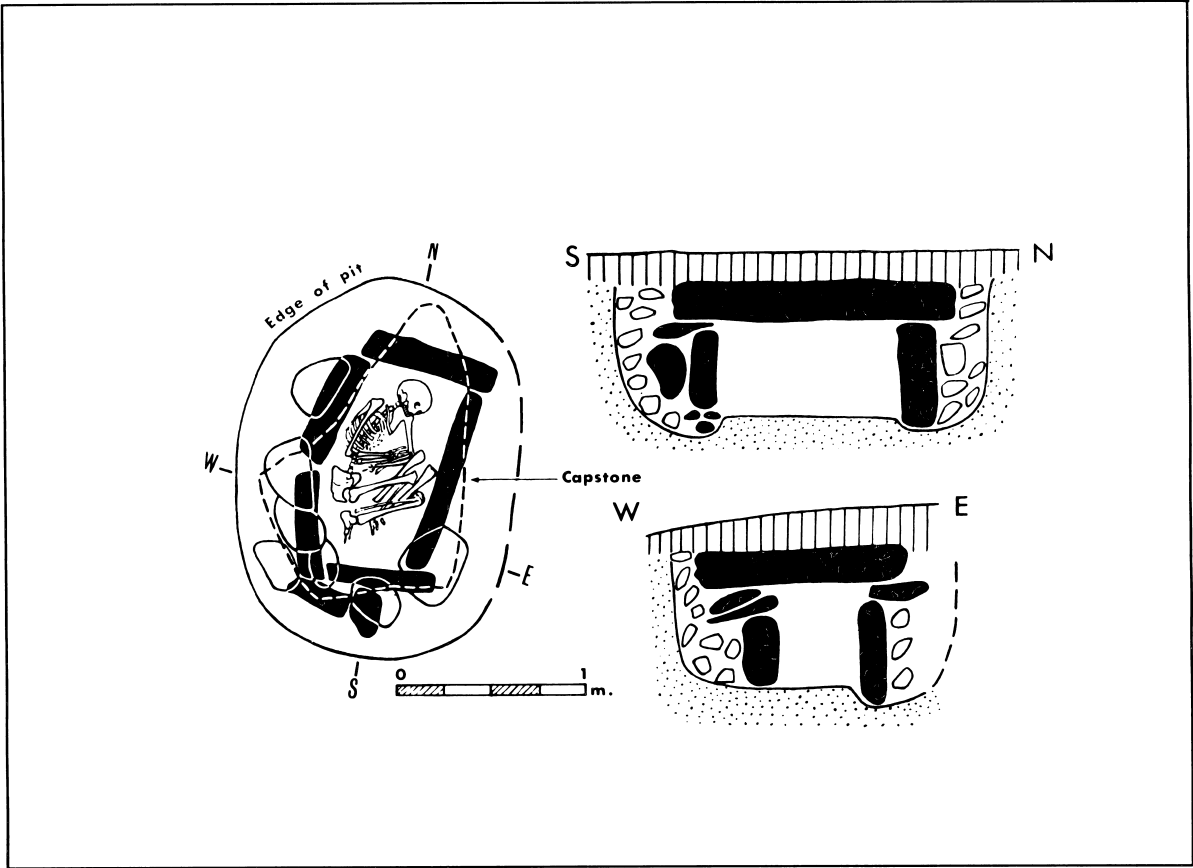


Fig. 116. Rahinashurock, Co. Westmeath (after Danaher).

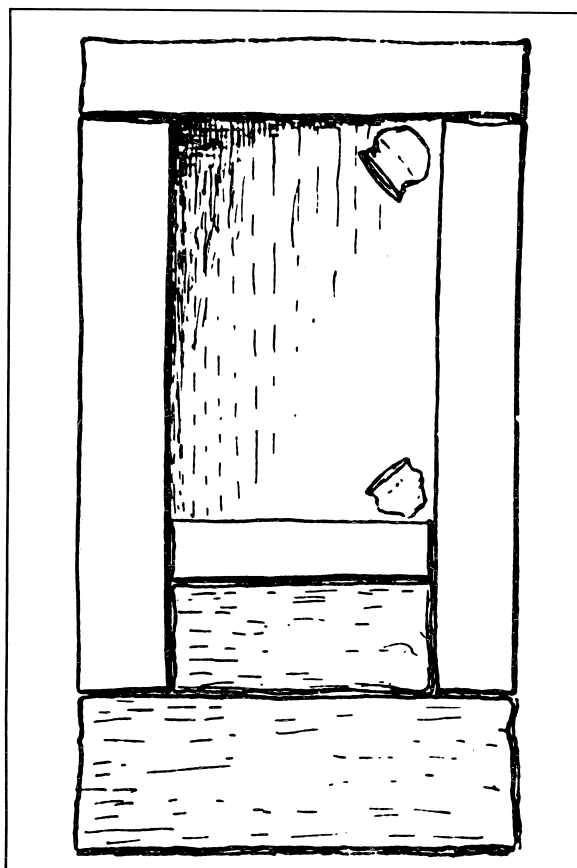


Fig. 117. Rathbennet, Co. Westmeath
(after Macalister).

were found, each lying on its side, in the NE and SE corners respectively. Two jet beads were also recovered. *PRIA* 40 (1931–32), 308.

REDMONDSTOWN, Co. Westmeath. OS 24
A small flat cemetery of three short rectangular cists was found in 1956. 1. Long axis N–S, 100 by 66cm approx., contained crouched skeleton of an adult, facing E, head to N. 2. 3m NE of no. 1; long axis NW–SE, 84 by 51cm; contained crouched skeleton, lying on its right side, head to NW. 3. 1.7m from no. 2; long axis NW–SE, 64 by 45cm; contained cremation and a bowl. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 135.

RICKARDSTOWN, Co. Westmeath. OS 13
A bowl was found c. 1944 with a crouched skeleton in what was probably a pit grave. NMI.

RIVERSTOWN, Co. Westmeath. OS 27
Short rectangular cist found in 1969, long axis

E–W, about 120 by 60cm, paved floor, contained a crouched adult skeleton lying on its right side facing N, head to E; bowl found mouth upwards near one hand in front of the upper chest. *JRSAI* 102 (1972), 234.

SONNAGH DEMESNE, Co. Westmeath. OS 18
Three burials were found in an esker; a flat cemetery (?): 1. A headless, extended unburnt burial in a stone-lined pit. 2. A cist, 39 by 46cm, contained a bowl and the cremation of a child. 3. A headless, crouched skeleton in a pit. Burials nos. 1 and 3 were found on either side of no. 2. NMI. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 135.

SRANEAG, Co. Westmeath. OS 32
Two short cists found 60m apart: 1. Sub-rectangular, stated to have measured 71 by 40cm; contained a crouched skeleton and a 'foodvessel'. 2. Rectangular, about 96 by 60cm; contained skeleton and a 'foodvessel'. *JRSAI* 26 (1896), 387.

SYONAN, Co. Westmeath. OS 31
A bowl is said to have been found in a stone chamber at the 'Moat of Sionan' near Horseleap. This 'moat' was probably a large mound in Syonan townland which was destroyed in the construction of a railway line in the nineteenth century. *PRIA* 7 (1857–61), 128. *BAP* 1, fig. 394. (Information from B. Duffy).

ANNAGH MORE, Co. Wexford. Fig. 118. OS 2
Short rectangular cist, found 1948, long axis E–W, 78 by 42cm, contained the disturbed, crouched skeleton of a young adult male, a bowl had stood mouth upwards near the skull. The burial had lain on a 5cm thick layer of compact dark soil which covered the rock-cut floor of the cist, this layer contained a few poorly preserved bones of a child 2–3 years old. The excavator suggests that the cist was re-used. About 1923 another cist was found nearby, it measured about 38cm square and was stated to have contained a human skull. *JRSAI* 83 (1953), 46.

BALLINTUBBRID, Co. Wexford. OS 27/28
Cordoned urn (Kavanagh 58), cremated bones of an adult, battle-axe and burnt flint chip found; the urn was inverted in a pit. *JRSAI* 105 (1975), 132.

BALLYDUFF, Co. Wexford. Fig. 119. OS 16
A small, sub-rectangular cist, long axis N–S, 50 by

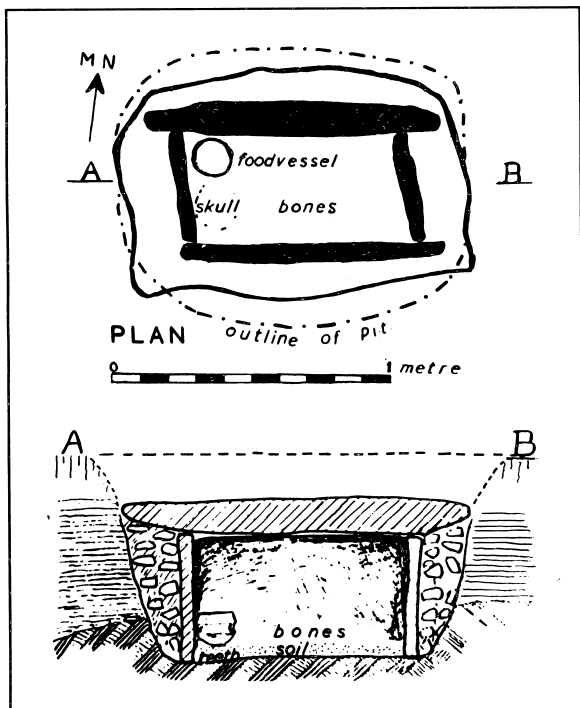


Fig. 118. Annaghmore, Co. Wexford (after Hartnett and Prendergast).

40cm, 40cm deep, paved floor. The cist contained 15cm of fill in which were mixed cremated bones. A vase was found lying on its side on top of the fill in the SW corner of the grave. A burnt, segmented faience bead was found in the fill and the bones represented two young adults – possibly a male and a female. *JRSAI* 83 (1953), 49.

BALLYKALE, Co. Wexford.

OS 11/12

A small mound covered a square cist which contained an 'urn', adjoining this cist was another cist which contained a bowl or vase. These may be the two 'urns' near Ballycanew recorded by Lewis. *JRSAI* 15 (1879–82), 744. *PRIA* 16 (1879–88), 159. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 121.

BALLYVELIG, Co. Wexford.

OS 39

Vase urn found inverted in a pit and containing cremated bones. Another urn burial was apparently found in a nearby field c. 1890. *JRSAI* 66 (1936), 186.

Near BOLABAUN, Co. Wexford.

OS 37

Cists containing cremated bones found c. 1951 during sand-quarrying on the bank of the River

Slaney. No details. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 136.

BOLINREADY, Co. Wexford.

Fig. 120. OS 16

A short rectangular slab-built cist measured internally 100 by 55cm and 45–50cm deep; its long axis lay E–W. It was constructed of four slabs and a capstone; the walls were supported on the outside by thin slabs inclined against them. The cist had been previously disturbed; in it was found a bowl, standing upright in the NE corner. In this corner, too, were broken human bones representing a young male adult. Many bones of the skeleton were missing, their absence being attributed to the earlier disturbance. Among the bones was the apparent upper portion of the fibula of a 5–6 year old child. *JRSAI* 98 (1968), 161–2.

COURTOWN, Co. Wexford.

OS 12

A cist which is stated to have measured some 1.20m by 60cm contained the unburnt skeletal remains of an adult; a sherd of highly ornamented unglazed pottery was found nearby. *JRSAI* 7 (1862–3), 144.

CUMMER, Co. Wexford.

OS 2

A small flat cemetery of 'three kistvaens with urns in them' found in a row c. 1840; one of the urns contained a smaller one; no further details. Another cist in this townland, found c. 1877, reportedly contained an 'urn' about 30cm in diameter and 23cm high, it had a broad flat lip 5cm wide (a Neolithic pot?). *PRIA* 16 (1879–88), 156.

DEEPS, Co. Wexford.

OS 32

A cist burial containing a bowl or vase was destroyed during sand-quarrying in 1951; a number of other graves may also have been found: no details. *JRSAI* 83 (1953), 57.

DUNGANSTOWN, Killowen, Co. Wexford.

OS 34

Two vessels and cremated bones were found in a sand-pit, one was probably an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 80). *JRSAI* 3 (1854–5), 204.

EARDOWNES GREAT, Co. Wexford.

OS 48

A short rectangular cist, long axis NE–SW, 73 by 61 by 40cm deep, paved floor. No finds. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 137.

ENNISCORTHY, Co. Wexford.

OS 20

A short rectangular cist contained cremated bone, and a vase lying on its side in one corner. NMI.

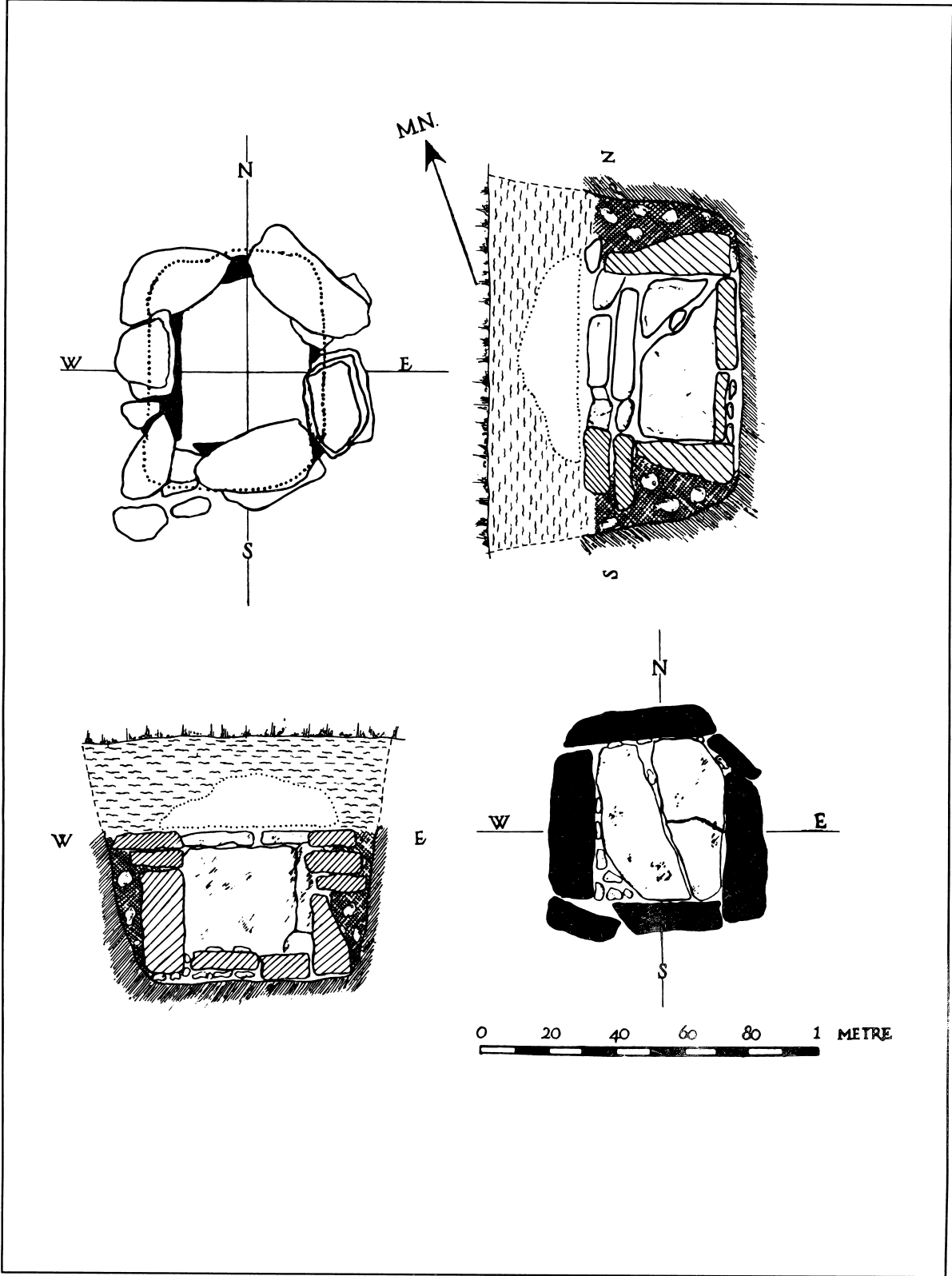


Fig. 119. Ballyduff, Co. Wexford (after Hartnett and Prendergast).

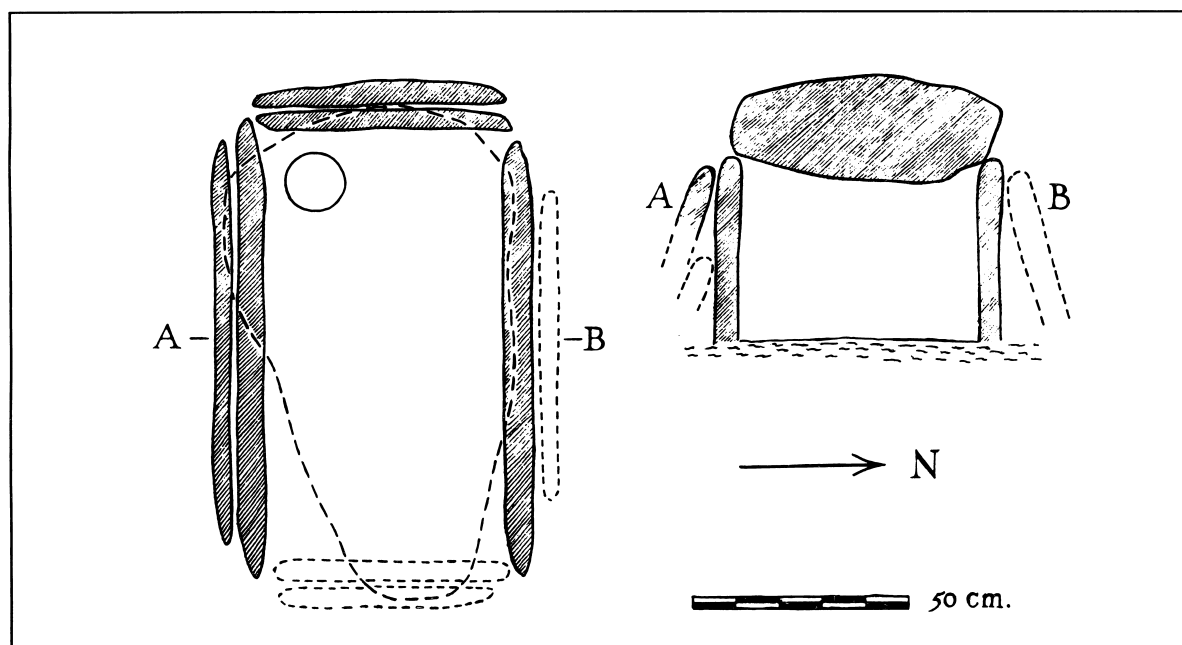


Fig. 120. Bolinready, Co. Wexford (after Prendergast).

KILLINCOOLY MORE, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.

OS 28

A possible flat cemetery: 1. In 1886 a cist containing the crouched skeleton of 'a once large man' and an 'urn' was found. 2. A bowl shaped vessel found in 1931 was covered by a large stone and may have been associated with a cremation. 3. A vase urn was found with cremated bones prior to 1902; it may well have come from the same site as nos. 1 and 2. The discovery of other 'urns' is mentioned (possibly those noted under Kilmuckridge). *JRSAI* 32 (1902), 69; 66 (1936), 188.

KILMUCKRIDGE, Co. Wexford.

OS 22

In 1887 two vases and an accessory cup (Kavanagh 53) were found in a cist. No precise details. *JRSAI* 18 (1887), 348; 66 (1936), 190, fn.; 83 (1953), 53, fn. *BAP* vol. II, fig. 565. *BMQ* 31 (1967), 119.

KNOCKNASKEAGH, Co. Wexford.

Fig. 121.

OS 20

A small polygonal cist of eight side-slabs measured about 70 by 60 internally, it had a floor slab and was roofed with a capstone which lay 38cm below the ground surface. The cist was 30cm deep and had contained a fill of earth of unspecified depth through which were mixed some charcoal and cremated bones; because of disturbance after discovery the position of two vases in the grave was not

recorded but it was reported that they stood mouth upwards. The cremated bones were those of a child 14 to 15 years of age. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 152.

LOGGAN, Co. Wexford.

OS 2

'Three urns found enclosed in cists' near the SE part of 'Loggan Mote'. A 'group of cists' found about 300m to the W; etc. No details. *PRIA* 16 (1879-88), 154. *JRSAI* 34 (1904), 321.

MISTERIN, Adamstown, Co. Wexford.

OS 30/35

A 'small chamber' described as about 46cm in diameter and 'the sides built with rough stones' contained some cremated bones and two accessory cups (Kavanagh 54-55). Two cists 'of the same kind' found previously nearby. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 19.

MISTERIN, Co. Wexford.

OS 30/35

A vase urn was found with cremated bones in a cist or a stone-lined pit: 'of smallish boulders (about a score in number)'; no precise details. *NMI Report*, 1930-31, 4.

OLDCOURT, Co. Wexford.

OS 30/31

A vase urn found inverted on a slab, and containing cremated bones, in 'a small cist'. *JRSAI* 28 (1898), 70.

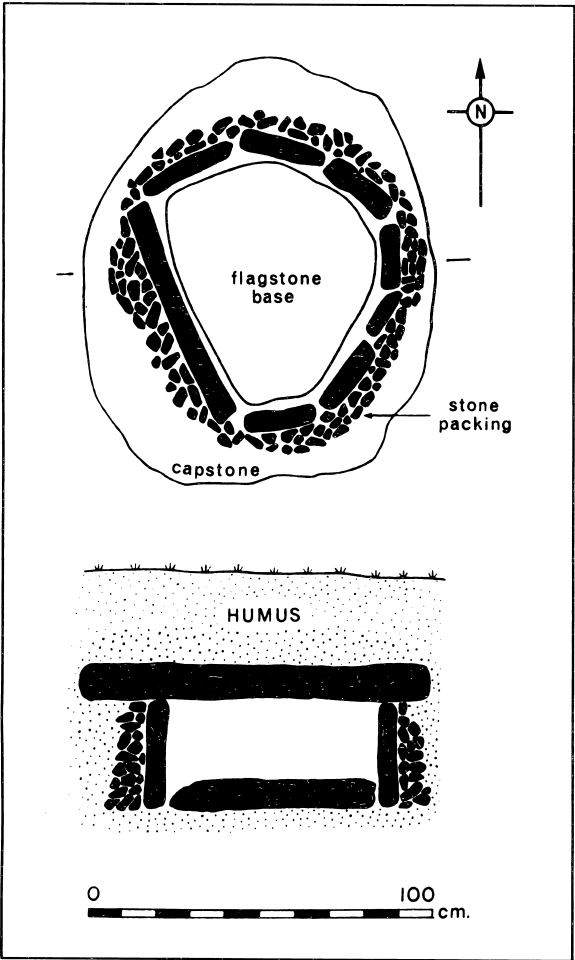


Fig. 121. Knocknaskagh, Co. Wexford (after J. Raftery).

SCARAWALSH, Co. Wexford. Fig. 122. OS 20 A small flat cemetery of at least six graves was found in the course of sand-quarrying; they were found in a rough N-S line, all within an area measuring about 12 by 4m: A. Small rectangular cist, long axis approx. E-W, about 70 by 50cm; in the cist was found an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 82) containing some cremated bones. B. A pit held an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 83) which contained cremated bones; sherds of a vase were associated. C. Collared urn (Kavanagh 43; Longworth 1984, no. 2243) containing cremated bones was inverted in a pit. D. Vase urn containing cremated bones, inverted in a pit. E. Collared urn (Kavanagh 44; Longworth 1984, no. 2244) containing cremated bones, inverted in a pit. F. Oval pit, 40 by 52cm, contained cremated bones resting on a deposit of carbonised material. *JRSAI* 96 (1966), 39.

SHELMALIER COMMONS, Co. Wexford. OS 42 A large cairn near Skeater Rock was destroyed in 1884. At its centre a slab-covered pit (?) contained a bowl. No bones were reported. *JRSAI* 25 (1895), 384. Hore, *History of the Town and County of Wexford*, Vol. 5 (1906), 15.

SOLSBOROUGH, Co. Wexford. OS 20 'An ancient urn of unbaked clay, rudely carved and containing calcined bones' found in a tumulus. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 344.

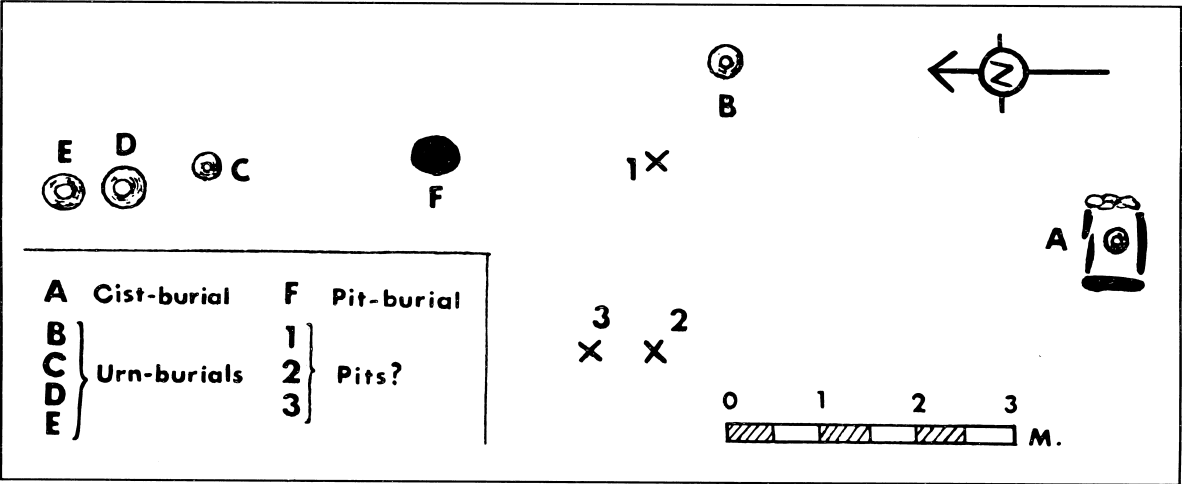


Fig. 122. Scarawalsh, Co. Wexford (after Rynne).

WEXFORD, Co. Wexford.

OS 37

'Near the Windmill hill a rudely carved urn of unbaked clay, containing calcined human bones, was found in 1831'. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 2, 664.

Near AUGHRIM, Co. Wicklow.

OS 34

A biconical cup (Kavanagh 56) was apparently found with cremated bones in a sand-pit c. 1914, two pot-sherds (? bowl or vase) and further fragments of cremated bone were discovered at the same place. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 51.

BALLINGLEN, Co. Wicklow.

OS 39

A cist found in 1832, is said to have measured 1.20m in length, long axis E-W; it contained burnt human bones, a vase and a larger urn; the latter is not preserved. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 48.

BALLYBREW, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 123.

OS 3

A small flat cemetery of three cist graves found in the course of gravel digging: 1. Short rectangular cist, about 92 by 61 by 61cm deep, long axis WNW-ESE, paved floor; the crouched skeleton of a young adult female lay on its right side, head to E, facing roughly N; a bowl (mouth said to have been covered by a stone) stood in the NE corner opposite the face. A broken lignite bead was found near the left hand and a small flint scraper near the knees; two small flint flakes were also found. Impressions of *Carex* or *Juncus* stems (? a rush matting) were preserved in an incrustation of carbonate of lime on some of the paving stones. A rock crystal and quartz pebble were found below the paving. 2. A metre or so W or NW from no. 1; short rectangular, about 112 by 76cm, long axis NW-SE; it contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult male, lying on its back, skull to E. A bowl stood in the E. corner, near the skull. To the N of this skeleton were found the scattered remains of the skeleton of a child, two bones of which were found in the bowl. Three flint fragments and two quartz chips were found. 3. Another cist was found a little to the S of no. 2, it was seemingly filled with earth. *PRIA* 43 C (1935-7), 255.

BALLYCONNELL, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 124.

OS 37

An encrusted urn (Kavanagh 84) was found inverted in a slab-covered pit and containing cremated bones. *J. Kildare A. S.* 13 (1955), 300.

BALLYKNOCKAN, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 125.

OS 28

A short rectangular cist, 61 by 34cm, long axis SE-NW approx., disturbed; fragments of cremated bone and 'food-vessel type' pottery recovered. *JRSAI* 64 (1934), 259.

BALLYNERRIN, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 126.

OS 25

Short rectangular cist, 55 by 40 by 40cm deep, longer axis E-W approx. Contained cremation of an adult mixed through sandy fill of cist. *JRSAI* 82 (1952), 161.

BLACKDITCH, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 127.

OS 19

A short rectangular slab-built cist with capstone was found in 1897, it measured 152cm by 71cm and about 61cm in depth. Its floor was paved with small stones and its long axis lay approx. ESE-WNW. It contained the crouched skeleton of a male of about 40 years laying on its right side, feet in the E corner and head to the W. Sherds of a bowl or vase were also recovered. *PRIA* 20 (1896-98), 559; 42 C (1934-5), 53. *JRSAI* 27 (1897), 189.

BURGAGE MORE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 5

Short rectangular cist, 75 by 42cm; floor-slab; held an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 85) containing cremated bones, and a vase which was also inverted. *NMI Report* 1933-4, 13.

CALARY LOWER, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 128.

OS 7

A polygonal cist of seven side-slabs measured about 60cm across and 56cm in depth; two slabs covered the floor. It held an inverted encrusted urn (Kavanagh 86) which contained the cremated bones of a child. *JRSAI* 68 (1938), 157; 73 (1943), 152.

CLONSHANNON, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 129 (burial

OS 22

3). A small flat cemetery of three or four burials: 1. A polygonal cist held an encrusted urn (Kavanagh 87) containing the cremated bones of a young adult male. 1a. A few sherds of a vase urn and some fragments of cremated bone were found about 60cm from no. 1; this deposit was thought to be a disturbed burial. 2. A small, square disturbed cist, 55cm across, contained sherds of a vase and cremated bones of an adult. 3. A small sub-rectangular or polygonal cist measuring about 48 by 41cm, it held an inverted vase urn which contained the cremated bones of a child five to six years

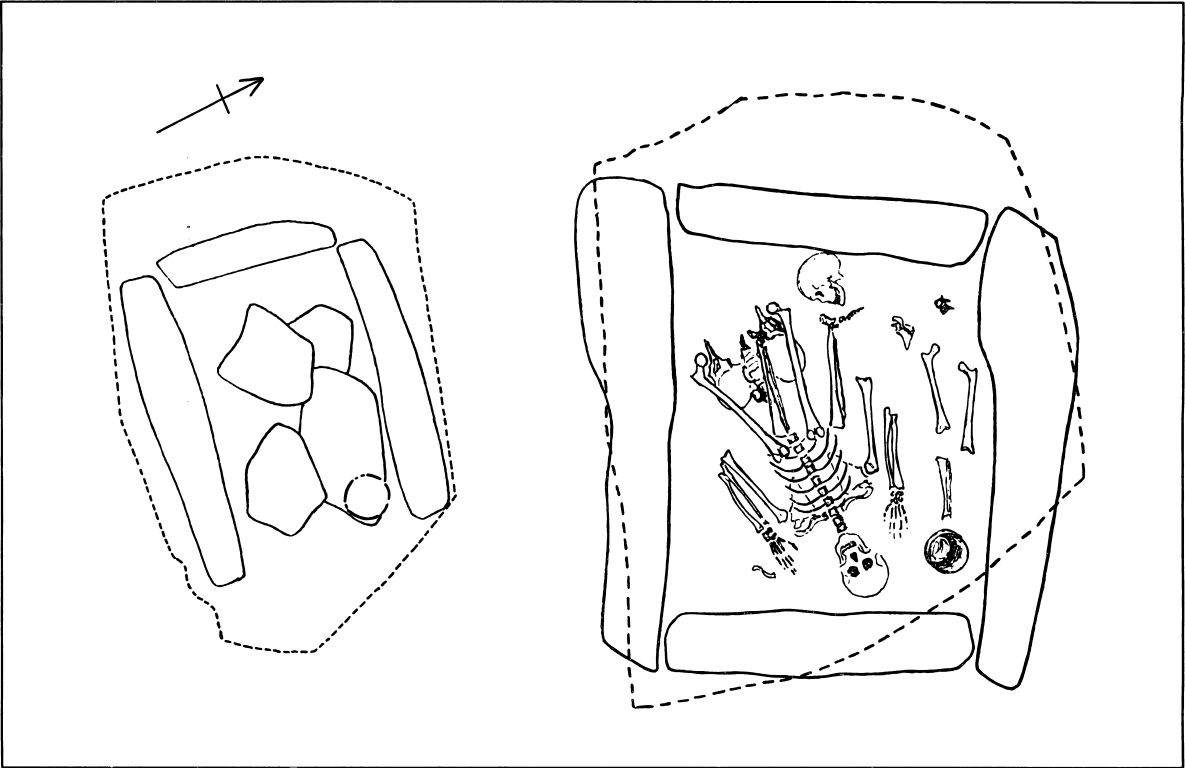


Fig. 123. Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow: cists 1 and 2 (after Martin).

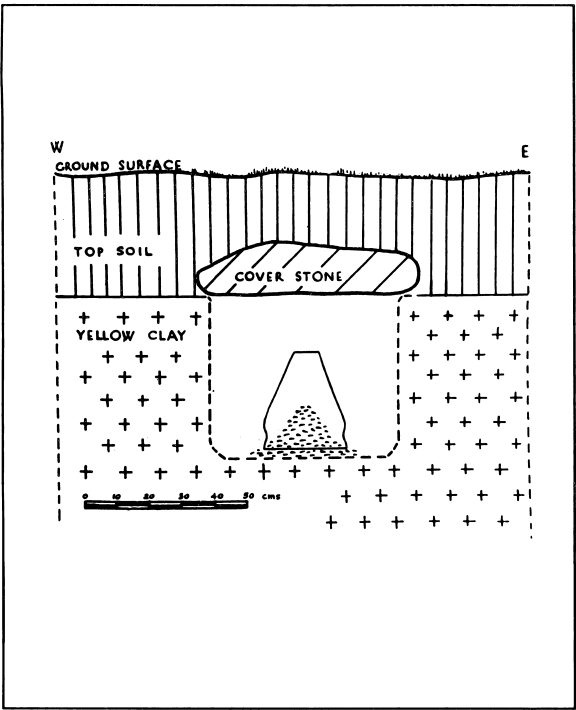


Fig. 124. Ballyconnell, Co. Wicklow: reconstruction of grave (after A. B. Ó Ríordáin).

old and a broken biconical cup (Kavanagh 57). *JRSAI* 62 (1932), 75.

CREHELP, Co. Wicklow. OS 15
A slab-covered cist or pit (?), on the site of a possible cemetery mound, contained five pottery vessels and 'small pieces of bone'; two vases and a cup (Kavanagh 58) are preserved. The mound which once stood about 4.5m high may have contained two other cists. *JRSAI* 61 (1931), 122; 63 (1933), 61. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 45.

DEERPARK, Co. Wicklow. OS 33 (?)
The opening of a tumulus c. 1834 resulted in the discovery of 'an urn of coarse pottery ... which contained ashes and bones'. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 47.

DILLONSDOWN, Co. Wicklow. OS 5
A bowl and unburnt bones found in a gravel pit: no details. NMI.

FASSAROE, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 130. OS 3
A polygonal cist, with floor-slab, measured about 60cm across and contained cremated bones, prob-

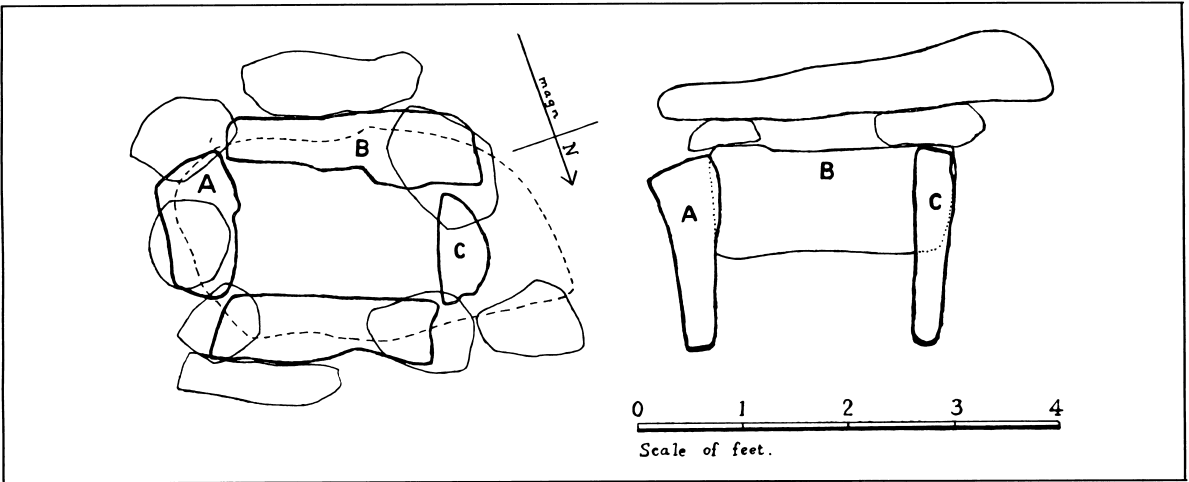


Fig. 125. Ballyknockan, Co. Wicklow (after Walshe).

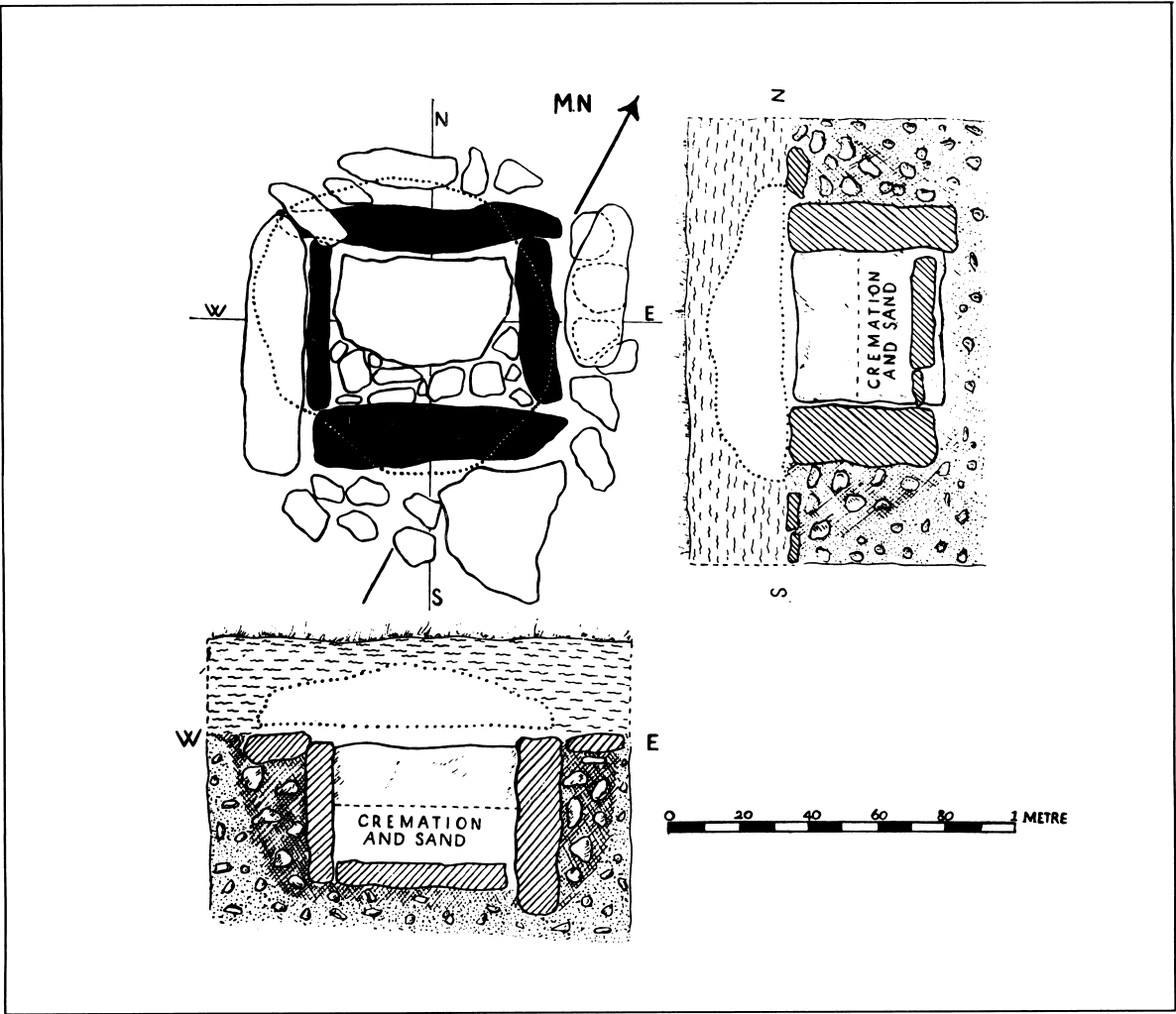


Fig. 126. Ballynerrin, Co. Wicklow (after Hartnett).

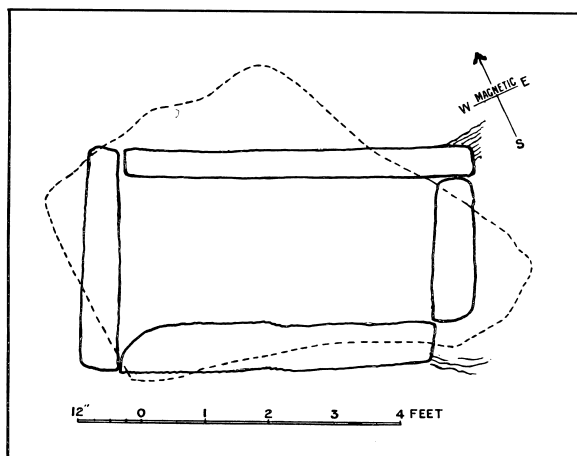


Fig. 127. Blackditch, Co. Wicklow (after Coffey).

ably of a male adult, and a flint flake. *JRSAI* 65 (1935), 325.

FERRYBANK, Co. Wicklow.

OS 40

In 1839 the destruction of 'a green mount' revealed 'some sepulchral urns containing ashes and bones'. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 51.

FRIARHILL, Co. Wicklow.

OS 15

A rectangular cist, found in the course of sand digging, contained cremated bones. *JRSAI* 61 (1931), 121.

HAYLANDS, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 131.

OS 5

A disturbed tumulus was reinvestigated in 1932: 1. The centrally placed grave (L), possibly a cist, had been destroyed, some fragments of cracked (? charred) bones and a sherd of a bowl were recovered. 2. To the E of no. 1, at a depth of 1.20m, a rectangular cist (D) long axis NE-SW, contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult male lying on left side, skull to SW, feet to NE; a bowl was found behind the skull. 3. At a depth of about 1m, a roughly built cist-like structure (G) contained the remains of the crouched skeleton of an adult female. 4. 'A quantity of cremated bone' (F) at a depth of 1.5m. 5. Remains of an unburnt skeleton, possibly crouched, and some non-human bones were found. Stray finds included a fragment of a skull, an ox tooth, a red deer antler and two pottery fragments (both featureless and unclassifiable). *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 49.

KELSHAMORE, Co. Wicklow. Fig. 132. OS 21
Two short rectangular cists: 1. 95 by 58 by 50cm

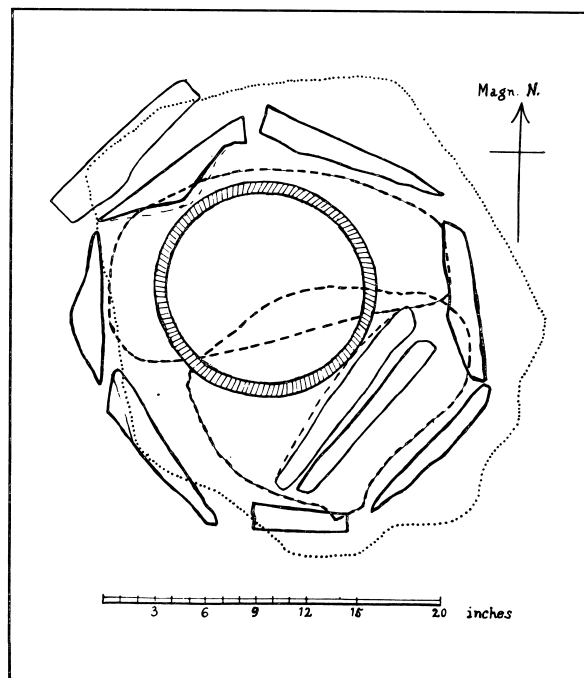


Fig. 128. Calary Lower, Co. Wicklow (after Price).

deep, long axis almost N-S; paved floor; disturbed; probably contained a cremation; bowl preserved. 2. Found 5.4m to W; 70 by 20 by 40cm deep, long axis almost N-S, contained cremated bones of an adult, a bowl and a calcined plano-convex flint knife. The bowl reportedly rested (presumably mouth upwards) on top of the bones in the centre of the grave. *JRSAI* 82 (1952), 153.

KILBRIDE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 1/5

In 1873, some fragments of 'cinerary urns' and cremated bones were found in the Liffey valley. Sherds of vase urn in NMI. *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 62.

KILBRIDE, near Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

OS 40

Vase found in 1839 in a short rectangular cist, it lay inverted over two small bones: ... 'a flag, under which was a stone coffin, containing an urn in an inverted position, under which were two small bones laid parallel to each other. The coffin consisting of six flags was eighteen inches long, the sides seven inches high, and ten broad, put together with neatness, the corners rectangular, and the sides perpendicular ...'. The two bones 'were pronounced to be joints of human fingers and toes'. *PRIA* 1 (1836-40), 297. Wilde (1857), 185. *BAP* 1, fig. 399. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 51. *JRSAI* 99 (1969), 25.

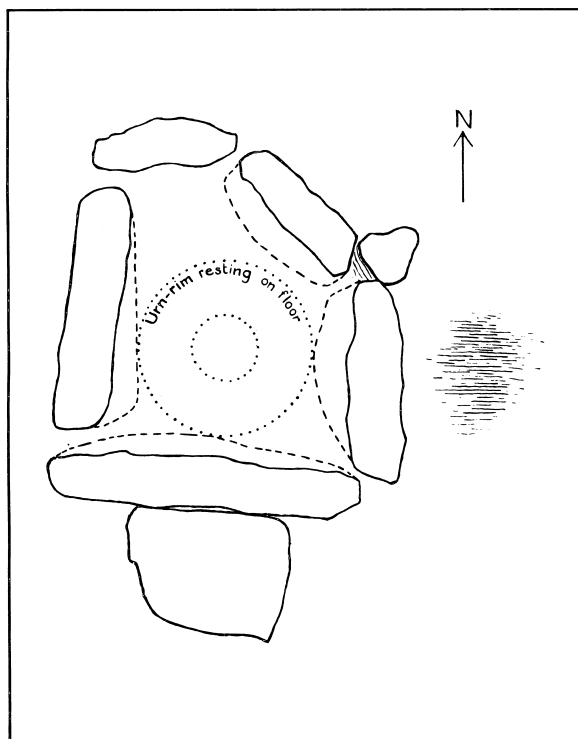


Fig. 129. Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow: burial 3 (after Mahr and Price).

KILLABEG, Co. Wicklow.

OS 42

Sherds of an encrusted urn and cremated bones were found in a sand-pit. No details of burial known. *JRSAI* 67 (1937), 308.

KILMACANOGE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 7

An accessory cup (Kavanagh 59) was found with cremated bone 'in a cavity formed by three stones standing upright' in a sand-pit. No further details. *JRSAI* 100 (1970), 139. *BMQ* 31 (1967), 111.

KILRANELAGH, Co. Wicklow.

OS 27

'A small enclosure of eight flags, six of these forming its sides, and two closed in the top and bottom' – possibly a polygonal cist – contained a vase urn and cremated bones. *TRIA* 1 (1787), 161. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 47.

KNOCKANREE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 35

Small short rectangular cist found near the centre 'of a rath, some 50 yards in diameter, the ditch being almost effaced on one side'. The cist measured 43 by 30cm internally, was built of four slabs and covered by a cap-stone; it contained a bowl which reportedly contained 'ashes and portion of a charred bone'. The farmer who removed the bowl

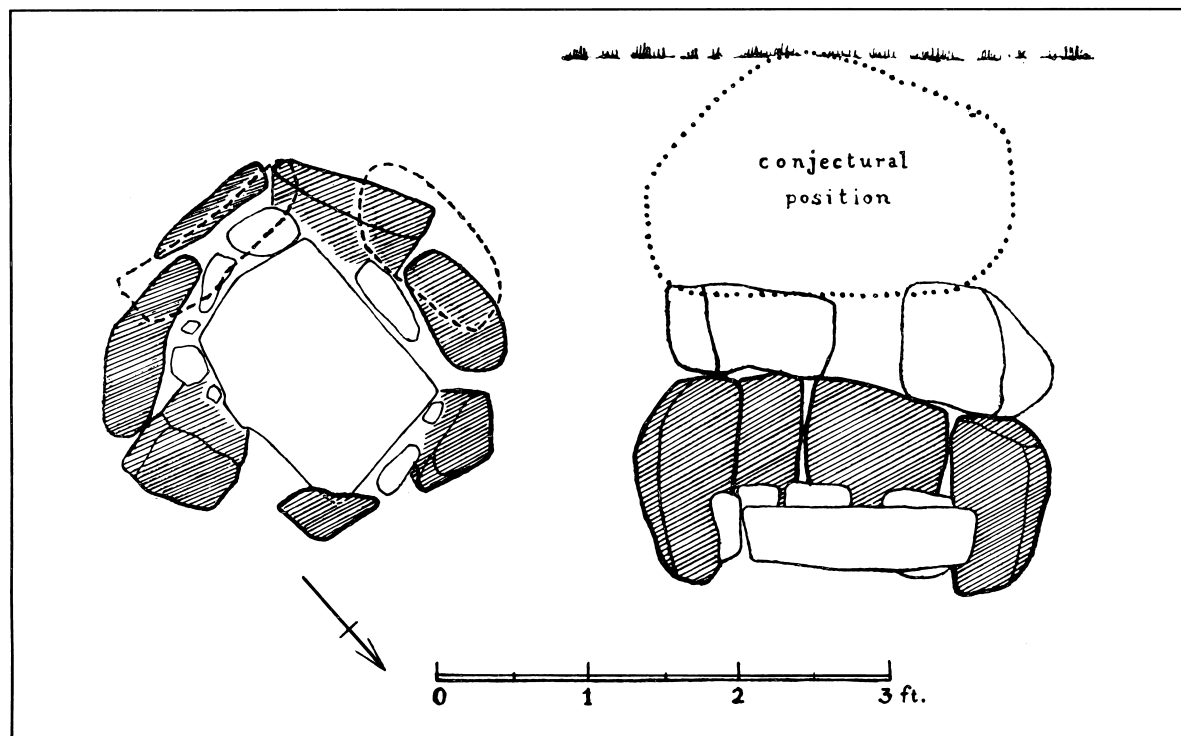


Fig. 130. Fassaroe, Co. Wicklow (after Price).

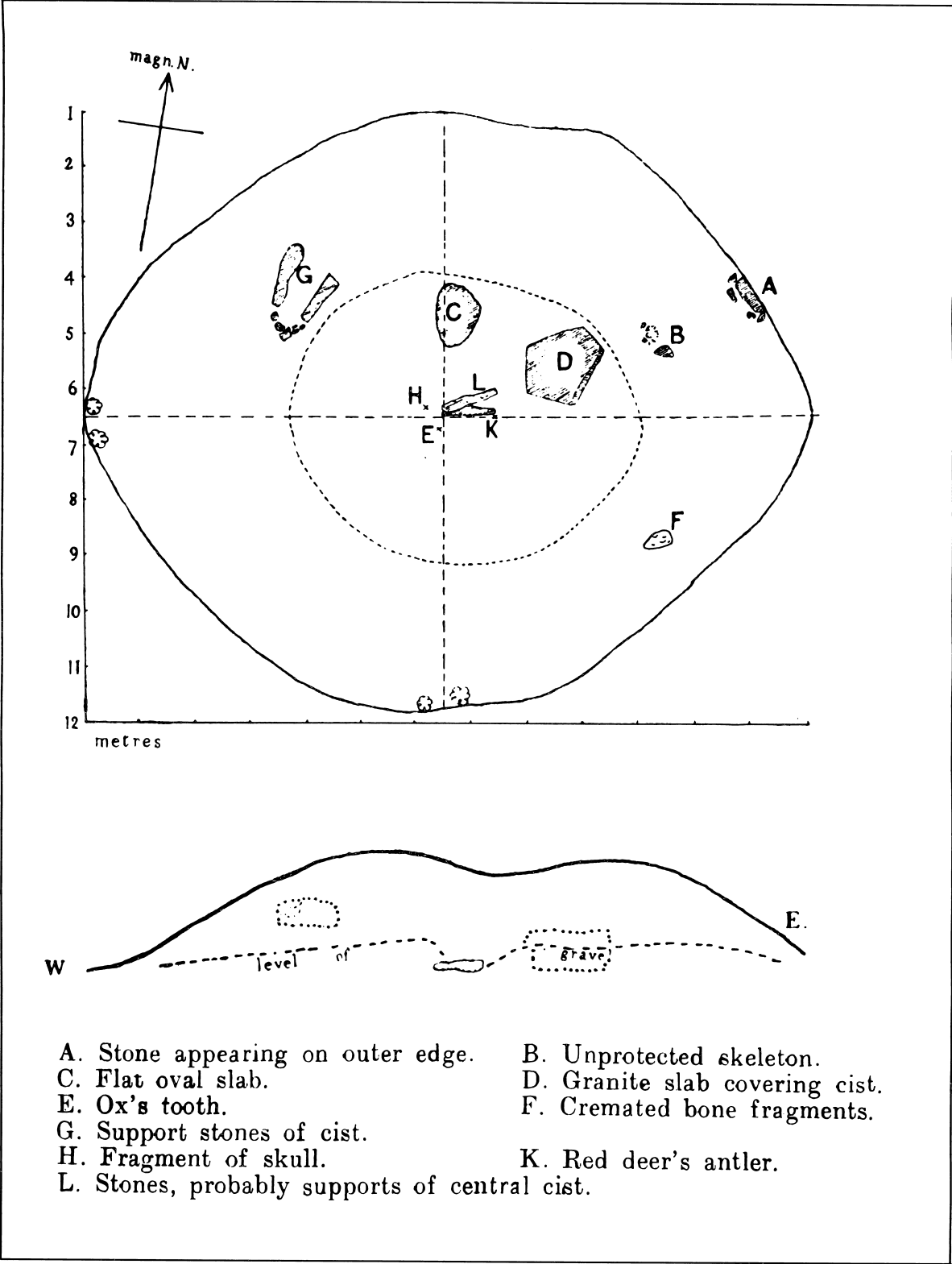


Fig. 131. Haylands, Co. Wicklow (after Price and Walshe).

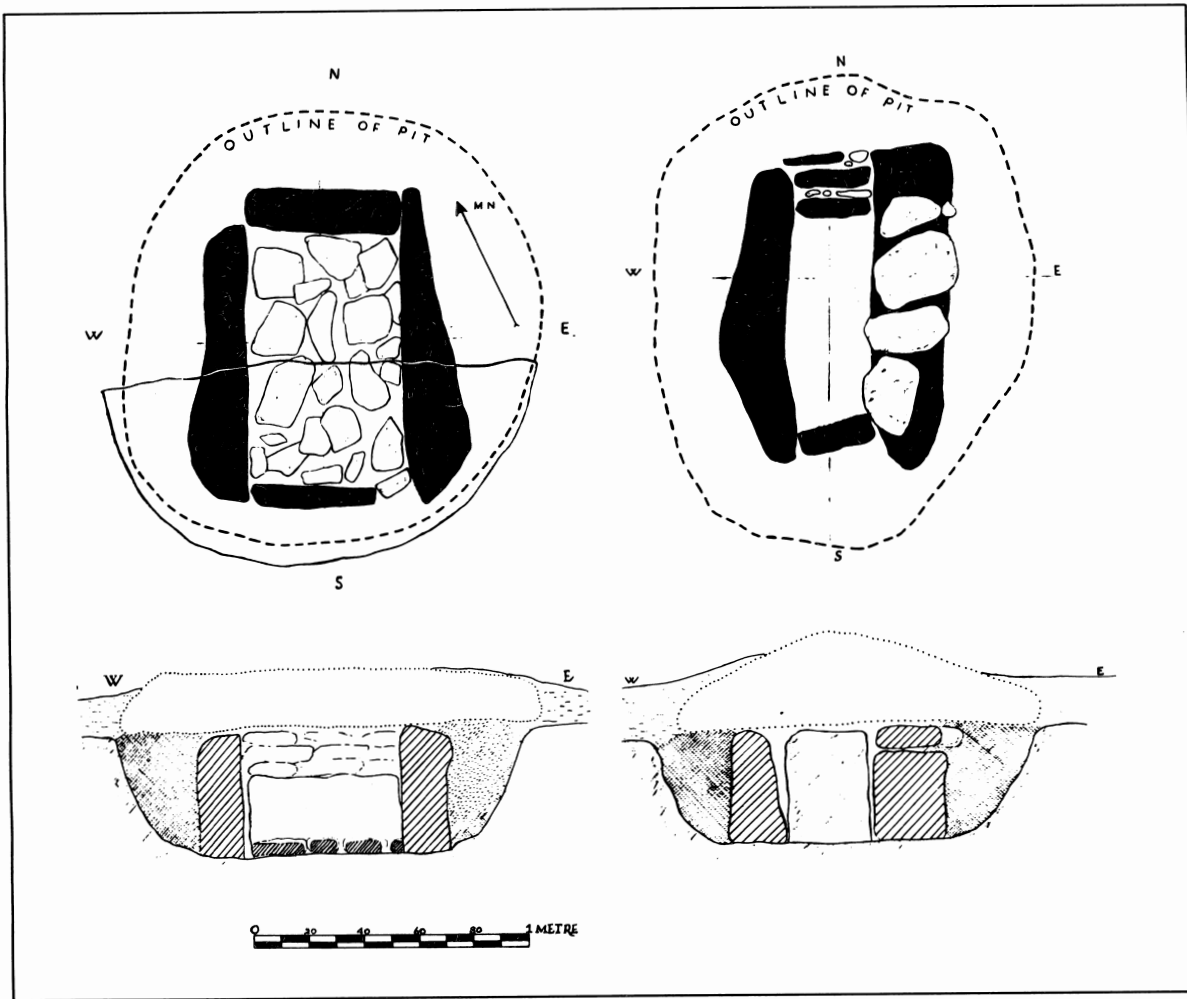


Fig. 132. Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow: cists 1 and 2 (after Hartnett).

from the cist returned it after the sudden death of one of his cattle. A number of years previously in a field outside the rath he discovered 'a space about 6 feet long and 3 feet wide, bounded by upright slabs and containing charcoal'. Price has stated (*PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 52) that the bowl was found near 'a cairn of stones some 18 or 20 yards in diameter'. *JRSAI* 46 (1916), 77.

LEMONSTOWN, Co. Wicklow.

OS 9/15

A bowl was found in 1818 in a large tumulus surrounded by a ditch and external bank; overall diameter c. 45m. *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 48.

LISCOLMAN, Co. Wicklow.

OS 37

A mound is said to have produced two or three pottery vessels ('foodvessels'), these were found in slab-built graves. A second mound in this town-

land contained at least one cist, a bowl and some unburnt bone were recovered. *NMI. J. Kildare A.S.* 13 (1955), 303.

LUGNACROAGH, Co. Wicklow.

OS 10

Five slabs which collapsed into a sand-pit in 1964 were probably the remains of a cist (the largest measured 1.65 by 1.53 by 1.20 by 79cm and was possibly the capstone); unburnt and cremated bones were also found but were not preserved. A vase from this townland, found in the nineteenth century, is preserved in *NMI. JRSAI* 100 (1970), 139; 63 (1933), 62.

MERGINSTOWN DEMESNE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 15

At least two cists and several other graves, some containing 'small sepulchral urns' were found within an area some 19m in diameter, possibly the

remains of a circular cemetery mound. Three bowls and a plain vessel are preserved. *JRSAI* 63 (1933), 59.

MOORESHILL, Co. Wicklow.

OS 39/40

An urn was allegedly found in the nineteenth century in a tumulus known as Killahurler Mote. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 51.

Near NEWCASTLE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 19

An oval or polygonal cist beneath a tumulus was constructed of seven stones which enclosed an area 107cm long and 61cm wide. It was apparently roofed with three capstones and on its clay floor lay a heap of cremated bones, on top of which rested a small bronze razor. *JRSAI* 18 (1887-88), 163. Binchy, in Rynne (ed.) *North Munster Studies*, (1967), 60.

Near POWERSCOURT, Co. Wicklow.

OS 3/7

Six 'urns' were found c. 1760 in a tumulus, a published illustration indicates one was a bowl. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 55.

RATHCOT, Co. Wicklow.

OS 33

A vase urn was found c. 1870 inverted in a pit and containing cremated bones. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 48.

RATHMOON, Co. Wicklow.

Fig. 133.

OS 26

A short rectangular cist was found eccentrically placed in a circular mound some 20m in diameter and 4m high. The mound was destroyed; the cist measured 80 by 45cm and 50cm in depth, long axis E-W, paved floor. It contained the cremated bones of three adult females and two children (one of 6-8 years and one newly born) and a calcined leaf-shaped flint arrowhead. Some bone fragments bore greenish-blue vivianite staining due to mineralisation caused by the passage of carbonated waters through the grave. *JRSAI* 90 (1960), 84.

SAUNDERSGROVE, Co. Wicklow.

OS 21

A flat cemetery of 'several graves' found in 1787: the graves were clearly short cists and contained 'nothing but urns with ashes and burned bones'. Lewis records a 'kistvaen' and urn from a tumulus in Goldenfort, near Saundersgrove. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 46. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 166.

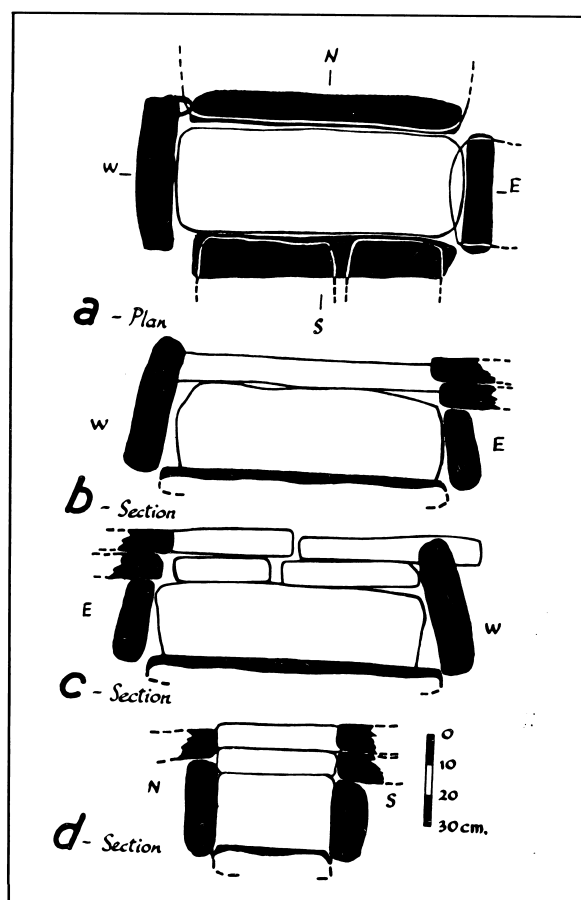


Fig. 133. Rathmoon, Co. Wicklow (after Lucas).

TORNANT, Co. Wicklow.

OS 15

A bowl is said to have been found in a cist. *JRSAI* 61 (1931), 120; 63 (1933), 63.

TUCKMILL LOWER, Co. Wicklow.

OS 27

A cist grave was destroyed by a mechanical excavator in 1969; sherds of two vases and some cremated bone were recovered. Another grave had been found c. 1964 some 9m NE of this cist, it had apparently contained cremated bone. What may have been a cist grave was found in the general vicinity some time before 1934. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 46. *JRSAI* 102 (1972), 236.

UMRYGAR, Co. Wicklow.

OS 47

A tumulus, opened in the early nineteenth century, yielded 'an urn of coarse pottery containing bones and ashes'. Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* (1849), Vol. 1, 256. *PRIA* 42 C (1934-5), 50.

