

The Barrnakill Stone :



The KIST. 29

T H E K I S T
The Magazine of
The Natural History & Antiquarian Society
of Mid-Argyll

President: Miss Campbell of Kilberry, FSA, FSAScot.

NUMBER TWENTY-NINE: Spring 1985
Editor: F.S.Mackenna, MA, FSA, FSAScot.

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(T.793)

Price 60p. (Post extra)

SOME 18th-CENTURY DYKERS

Marion Campbell

G.V.Turner's paper (Kist 26) on the march-dyke between Inverneill and Stronachullin sent me back to two sets of 18th-century estate accounts which survived a flitting from Minard to Kilberry in 1841 and a long sojourn at the back of a cellar thereafter. One set, 1728-88, is almost entirely in the writing of Archibald Campbell of Knockbuy (1693-1790), a noted Farm Improver. His lands included not only the Minard estate but farms around Kilmichael Glassary and in South Knapdale. His wife's nephew, Colin Campbell of Kilberry styled Lord Berners (Kist 28), passed much of his life away from home in the Army, and his accounts were kept by a succession of relatives, some more careful than others; when Colin does come to write his own accounts, it is in the cramped and tiny script of an Angry Old Man.

Both sets of books are similarly arranged; down the left-hand side a list of tenants, with the rent stated partly in money ('Silver Rent'), partly in goods or services. This page, prepared at leisure, is usually legible. Opposite it are the payments and allowances, and here the items are crammed into margins and overlap the totals, cash paid at odd times throughout the year, and allowances for such items as "weaving of blanketts", "shoes mended to the servants", and "yr Wife's work in the Harvest". The evidence for dyke-building is scattered among these congested entries and cannot always be disentangled or priced ("Allow'd you for Bldg. of Dyks and oyr (other) Work ..."), but a general pattern can be made out.

In the period 1728-45 dyke-building on Knockbuy's lands was carried out by his tenants on a small scale. From 1750 onwards he was actively enclosing his own cattle-parks and building, or paying tenants to build, march-dykes to enclose their individual holdings. Where his South Knapdale lands marched with Kilberry, his nephew had also to build dykes, and towards the end of the period we find Kilberry signing agreements with contractors.

In the first period the accounts are in Scots currency (devalued 12:1 against sterling); from 1746 they are in sterling.

In 1729 Donald Mór McInturner, formerly a herd, holds

half Kilmichaelbeg (Minard) and is due £S 8.6.8d for half his year's work "att the quarrie", the other half being settled in an account for cattle. In 1734 he receives £S 1.13.4d for "20 days' work at Limestone quarry with 1 week's meal" and £S 1.6.8d for "2 weeks att the dyke near the bridge, with meal". Duncan McKay in North Shirdruim has "5 weeks quarry att 1 mark (13/4d Scots), £S 3.6.8d, and James Crawford in Kilmichaelbeg is paid £S 4.13.- for "the (? house) dyke and gardine of Shenleekan". John McIllevin in Kilmichaelbeg has £S 3. for "his share of the dyke built in K(ilmichael)beg, with 1 mark for leading stones (for) 2 weeks, and the meal due for building Donald McIllevin's house", while Donald is allowed 8/- Scots for building two falls of the Kilmichaelbeg dyke. Next year Archibald McTavish has meal for "my part of the field dyke building" and for the use of a horse to drag stones.

John McNuir in Downer Shirdruim (Minard) has £S 13.6.- for nine months' quarrying ("he having gott his Meal"), and in 1737 is credited for "two weeks att the peeling of a dyke and quarrying limestone with me in Gleneilly", among other work. ('Peeling' is stripping turf to mark out the line of a new dyke). McNuir is perhaps our first expert dyker; in 1738 he and John Ferguson have built 69 falls of a dyke around "...son's acre, qhrof J. McNuir built 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ falls, after paying $\frac{1}{2}$ boll meal he got quch. is 5/-, is £S 9.3.-". A 'fall' by the way, is about an English perch, from 16ft 6ins to 18ft 6ins.

In 1758 Knockbuy's South Knapdale ('Kelisleat') tenants are to "build their own houses and have the materials of their present houses to build them with, and the tenants of the whole are to build their own march dykes". Much of this land is glacial till, with boulder-clay underlying it and sending up large boulders, to this day, after every ploughing of fallow. There is no mention of quarrying for dyke material. Work began in 1761 on the march between Coulaghailtro and Kilberry, with meal supplied by the miller of Lergnahension to Alexander McIntaggart, who also worked two days at "Achnaird" (Achadh na h'Ard, Lergnahension) for 2/-. That winter "my servants and Dun. Thomson" (Knockbuy's Ground Officer or overseer) did work costing £3.17.6d "att wood fences" in the same area (I think these are dykes around plantations, not timber fences, - but perhaps less robust than the march-dykes.

In 1764 Duncan McinTaggart (Mac-an-t'Sagairt) had "wro't 14 falls att march dyke with Kilberry att 10 pence per fall" and in July 1766 the miller incurred expenses of £1.17.1d for "aquavitie and victuals about the march", presumably an inspection of the complete march by all concerned, with essential refreshments. Duncan went on to build "12 falls of march twixt the 2 Culigaltroes" (now a single farm again, but the dykes remain), and Donald McinTurner 23 falls of the Kilberry-Coulaghailtro march and 23 of the dividing dyke. Colin of Kilberry had had to hire a dyker to meet his share of the joint march, for in 1769 and 1771 a Duncan Bell, Cowan, (or "Dun. Bell, Dyker") appears as a lodger of Widow Crawford in Dalcharn Changehouse.

Back on Lochfyneside, Knockbuy notes annually that his "parks of Knockbuy are not yet fully Inclos'd" until 1766, but by 1759 Kilmichaelbeg has been divided by "a stone wall through the middle", and the laird is to pay for enclosing the northern half, his new tenant paying an extra 10% in rent until the outlay is recovered. That same year the "houses, barns and march dykes of Upper Carran, Barchuile, and North Moninernich are to be made sufficient" before a new tacksman takes over (these lands extend from above Minard towards Glassary Glen).

In 1768 Kilmichaelbeg was set in tack to John McKellar, a cattle drover who had dealt with Knockbuy for years, often taking his cattle out to market along with his own droves. It was part of the bargain that Knockbuy would "build the march-dyke betwixt Kilmichaelbeg and Ardchastle of Stone before Whit. next and that he is oblidge to pay of an additional tackduty $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent yearly att each term of Marts of the money it costs me that is my share of it". This dyke is the splendid example of the art which one can still see, running uphill along the Kilmichaelbeg edge of the Forestry plantations above Lochgair.

In 1769 Knockbuy's Ground Officer in Glassary, Donald McKenzie, paid 10/- to Peter McPhedran, 8/- to one McGheil whose first name is not recorded, and 2/- to "the oyr (other) Dyke builders of Barihuel". Barchuile, near Torbhlairen and the larger Kilmichael (Glassary), was to have been enclosed in 1770, but in February 1771 there was an angry scene with the new tacksman there, Niven McVicar, who had "engag'd with me last year to cut & brush what of the woodland of Barchuile was not formerly inclosed and

.... the dyke was not built nor so much as the stones quarryd", so that the tack was annulled and re-rented to John McNoccard the previous tenant.

Back in South Knapdale, Donald Mcphoile in Lergnahension Changehouse was dyking his holding in 1772, and in 1778 his widow paid £2.5/- to John McKeok (McJock) (or Crawford), "builder of the march of Crear", another magnificent dyke still largely extant. Donald's son John took over the Changehouse and continued the dyking, with John McQuilkan in Corrary (the higher part of Lergnahension); unfortunately the dykes they built are not detailed, but Mcphoile is credited with £6.17/- and McQuilkan with £5.

At Minard in 1785 John McGilp in Achanain Inclosure was to "blast the stones in his arrable ground I paying him therefore... to make divisions ... and he to pay 7½% of additional rent", while Donald Campbell and Donald McArthur continue building "the Wood Dyke" at 10d a day, Peter Campbell receiving 6d a day as their helper.

Finally, from the Kilberry accounts come three contracts. First, in 1779, Duncan McMillan and Duncan Hamilton undertake to make "a Good and Sufficient Double Ditch on the South Side of the Avenue from the Great Line of Road Down to the gate next to the Cow yeard, The Fence to be the same with the Standard or pole by which the opposite fence on the North Side of the Avenue is at present Conducted", at 1/- per fall; (this is along the Kilberry Home Farm access, the 'Cow yeard' being, presumably, on the site of the present steading). The same contract covers another 'Ditch & Dyke' at 10d a fall, which I cannot locate for certain (it ran "all the way to the Willow Hedge and Ditch opposite to Dalcharn").

Second, in 1777, Murdoch McPherson is credited for a "Snap cutting round my Park, & Portachurry Snap at 1/3d per fall, with a line of new Dyke at the South end of Portachurry Park". (I am obliged to Mr Murdo Macdonald, the Archivist, for deciphering 'Snap'; it is a form of stone sheep-dyke. All that now remains at Port a'Churaidh is a little infilling between rocks, which would not stop a rabbit, let alone a sheep). Again, unfortunately no total is given. Murdoch was evidently a good dyker; he had earlier been moved to an outlying part of the estate where he could be employed in dyking and in repairing houses.

The last entry is in 1778, when George Stirling came

to take a tack (in this case a 19-year lease) of the Midtown of Kilberry; George was to build 100 falls in his first year, and 127 falls in each year thereafter "untill 480 falls is Built, of 5ft of Stones and two rows of divett (turf)"; elsewhere in the same agreement "a Dyke 5ft high on Stone and 2 Rows of Fail Caping" (faill = turf), at 5/6 per fall. We have come a long way from the 8d dykes of 1734, and the dykes have changed their character. The earlier ones were more boundaries than barriers, often a line of stones set upright and banked with turf, where loose stone was not readily available; then come the loose-stone dykes, requiring skill and heavy labour but helping to clear the arable of boulders; finally we have George Stirling's handsome turf-topped dykes (few, if any of which can now be identified).

The enclosing of Kilberry was never pushed on as hard as that of Knockbuy's holdings; in the 1850s, after Knockbuy's great-grandson (my great-Grandfather) returned to live at Kilberry (Kist 9), he writes of going out to see "the People working at the dykes" which were replacing old wavering turf-dykes with straight lines of big stones. At the same date one of his tenants was demolishing a Bronze Age cairn on the headland at Coulaghaitro to build the roadside dykes, still standing, in which it is noticeable that smaller stones from the cairn material form the foundation and large rocks the top courses. Later in the 19th century a family of Galloway men came every few years to repair old dykes and build new ones; but so far I have not traced payments for their work.

AUCHENTIOBART and the MACARTHURS

Duncan Beaton

The best time to visit Auchentiobart (1) is in spring when the wild daffodils are in bloom. Sometime during the period of habitation they were collected and planted alongside the track up to the houses, and there they remain.

The name Auchentiobart has sinister connotations loc-

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(1) Above Pennymore, which is on the old coast road from Furnace to Inveraray. NN043015. A recent F.C. road passes close below the site, making access on foot easy.

ally and one old lady in Furnace translated it as 'field of repentance'. Going along with this view, it could translate as 'field of the sacrificial offering' from Achadh an t-iobairt (1). More prosaically it is in all probability Achadh an tiobairt (2), 'field of the well.' Certainly there is a well (3) to the front of the site. The old 6" O.S. map shows the site of a chapel to the southwest of the other buildings. This spot could be pointed out on a heathery knoll until it was recently engulfed by forestry.

The township was either uninhabited or did not exist when the Hearth Tax Rolls were completed in July 1694, although the Physical Audit took place up to 3 years earlier. The census instigated by the 5th Duke in 1779 found one family there - 40 years-old Niven MacVicar, a herd, and his wife and 2 children. The MacVicars were to remain in Auchentiobart for several generations.

The birth of a son, Duncan, to John McArthur and his wife Catherine McPhedran in 1788 heralded that family's arrival in the township. Two years earlier they had had another son, Donald, in Gladich, Loch Awe. Over the next fifteen years they had a further 3 sons and one daughter, Mary, all born in Auchentiobairt.

Another McArthur family, Dugald and his wife Margaret Campbell, had 5 children in Auchentiobairt during a ten year period from 1795 onwards. However none of this family were living in the township in the next generation.

John and Dugald would seem to have been brothers from the naming pattern of their offspring. It is also very likely that their father's name had been Donald.

The next generation had 3 sons of John all marrying and living in the township. Duncan (b.1788) married Catherine McTavish and had 3 children between 1813-19. Thereafter they disappear from local records. His younger brother Dugald (b.1800) married and had a family in the 1830s which was still in the township in the 1860s. The

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Editorial Notes:-

- (1) Pronounced 'Ach-ant-eeputr,
- (2) Pronounced 'Ach-an-cheeparst'
- (3) The well was accidentally wrecked 25 years ago. See P.S.A.S. XCV (1961-2), p.82.

eldest brother, Donald (c.1786-1877), married Lillias Bell from Kilmun, Glenarary, and his youngest son William (1835-1916) was the last inhabitant of Auchentibart.

Another brother, Archibald (b.1792), is the subject of a persistent tradition on Lochfyneside - that he was the great-grandfather of U.S. General Douglas MacArthur.

According to the General's biographers his grandfather Arthur MacArthur was born in Glasgow on 26 January 1815. This would fit with Archibald, who would have been almost 23 by that time. Unfortunately no record of a baptism was found in a search of the registers.

By the time of the emigration to America the mother was a widow and she and the child settled in the State of Massachusetts. In 1840 young Arthur graduated in Law and set up practice in the town of Springfield. He married Aurelia Belches and a son, also Arthur, was born on 2nd June 1845. When the boy was 8 years old the family moved to Wisconsin, where Arthur Sr. was elected Lieutenant-Governor of the State. He eventually attained high judicial office in the Supreme Court and died in Atlantic City, New Jersey in September 1893. Again, an enquiry with the Department of Health of New Jersey failed to uncover any registration.

Arthur Jr. ran away from home in August 1862 and at the age of 17 became a lieutenant of Infantry in the Union Army at the time of the American Civil War. After the war he married a southerner, Mary Pinkney Hardy, daughter of a plantation owner. Between 1876 and 1880 MacArthur saw duty in Washington, New Orleans, and Little Rock, Arkansas and in each station a son was born.

Douglas, the youngest son, was born in the Officers' Quarters at the Little Rock Arsenal on 26 January 1880. His history is too well documented elsewhere to be of interest here, but it had a strange parallel with that of his father. In 1901 Lieutenant General Arthur MacArthur, Conqueror of the Philippines, took the surrendered sword of the then insurrectionist Manuel Quezon. Years later the same Quezon handed to his son Douglas, 'The Liberator' a gold baton of a Field Marshal of the Philippine Army.

About Inveraray today there are families descended from the MacArthurs formerly in Auchentibart. If the tradition is correct they are not much more than third cousins of America's great general of the Second World War.

PRE-1855 INSCRIBED GRAVESTONES in KNAPDALE

Owing to the fact that registration of deaths became obligatory only in 1855, our source of information in the case of the general run of the population prior to that lies in a reading of gravestones. Since very many of these monuments are disintegrating and becoming illegible, it is important that such as are still capable of being read should be recorded. The Scottish Genealogy Society commenced this some years ago, and sought the help of local societies such as ours. Our President and the present Editor were amongst those who carried out the Mid-Argyll recording, and it is from the reports compiled in this way that four of the Knapdale sites have been taken; the remaining six were specially re-examined by the Editor.

In making this transcription for Kist our format necessitates some modification and precludes any attempt at a facsimile. For example there are the numerous contractions and ligatures which appear - M^r (March), A. (AL), T+E (THE), L (LL), none of which can be reproduced on a typewriter; similarly the occurrence of upper and lower case letters in a single word would, if reproduced, tend to confuse a reading; again the indiscriminate use of capitals would have the same effect if a replica were attempted. () have been used to indicate missing portions - some supplied from other sources or from an obvious reading.

As the whole object of publishing these records in Kist is to make the information they contain available in an uncomplicated way, a straightforward reading has been adopted while at the same time retaining oddities of spelling and construction. As an aid to research all proper names have been given in capitals.

The first intention of arranging the entries in alphabetical order had to be abandoned on account of the difference of surname between husband and wife, each being of equal importance to anyone searching for ancestors.

In several of the graveyards there are enclosures belonging to local landowners, but the information afforded by these monuments has been disregarded in the present survey as it is available in the respective families' records and can be sought there. In the case of the remainder of the stones on the site no such second source of information exists.

KILNAISH, Kilberry Parish (NR775615)
(On B8024 between Tarbert and Kilberry)

By the President, Miss Sandeman and the Editor, 1972

Erected by ANGUS MacQUILKAN Esq. of CUILDRYNOC in memory of his spouse NANCY MacLELLAN who died the 8th Decr. 1828 aged 66 years.

Here lies the corps of MERRAN McEACHARN spous to JOHN JOHNSTON in ARDPATRICK who died May 20th 1757 aged 70.

Here lies the corps of DUGALD McLELLAN tennant in CUILGH-ALTRO who died 20th of March 1779 aged 70 years.

Erected to the memory of the deceas'd ARCHIBALD McLELLAN late tenant in GORTAN who departed this life January 5th 1811 aged 74 years.

Erected by ANGUS McCALLUM, NORTH KILBERRY in memory of his parents JANET SMITH who departed this life 6th Dec. 1826 aged 77 years ARCHD McCALLUM her husband who died 25th May 1828 aged 78 years.

Erected by DONALD MacQUILKAN post, in memory of his spouse CATHARINE JOHNSTON who died 13th May 1805 aged 37 years and MARY their daughter who died 13th December 1806 aged 14 years, and ALEX and DUGALD their sons who died in their infancy

On back

DONALD MacQUILKAN died 19th Decr 1840 aged 82 years.

Erected by DONALD MacQUILKAN Esq fewer TARBERT and ISABELLA MacLELLAN his spouse, in memory of their children ANGUS who died 19th Septr 1828 aged 25 years, ALEXANDER who died 24th Febr 1837 aged 18 years, also MARY who died 11th June 1838 aged 21 years.

Erected to the memory of the deceased DONALD McQUILKAN late of CUILDRYNOC who departed this life the 14th of Janr. 1803 aged 79 years.

Here lies the corps of JOHN McFOIL son to NEIL McFOIL in CRAIG who died July 17th 1760 aged 23.

Here lies the corps of JOHN WALKER who lived in DUNMORE and died Feby 4 1765 aged 60 also KATHERINE McBRID his spous who died 1752 aged 48

On back

DUNCAN WALKER in DUNMORE.

Erected by DUGALD WALKER spirit dealer in GREENOCK in memory of his father ARCHD WALKER late tenant GORTAN who died at ARDMINISH May 8 1831 aged 75 years. Also his spouse ISABELLA McMILLAN who died July 14th 1821 aged 55 years, their daughter NANCY who died August 3rd 1843 aged 42 years.

Here lies DUNCAN WALKER tennant in DUNMORE who died Feby 28th 173(?) aged 60.

Here lies DONALD MaMILLAN tennant in DUNMORE who died Jany 1746 and FLORANCE SMITH his spouse.

This is the burial place appoynted for ARCHIBALD McTAGART in LERGNANUNSION 1746.

Here lies the corps of MALCOM McMURPHY who died in CLACHAIG (?) Dec 1775 aged (?) 62 years.

On corner-stone of vault -

Sacred to the memory of JOHN STEWART of the family of ARD-SHEAL obit 29 April 1796.

Here lies the corps of DUNCAN WALKER who lived in CRAIG and died Novem 3rd 1760 aged 70 Don by GEORG and ARCHIBALD his sons also DUNCAN KATHIREN and MARY children to GEORG.

Here lies the corps of ARCHIBALD McQUILKAN tennant in CLAOCHAIG who died May 12th 1772 aged 60.

Here lies the corps of ANN STEWART spous to DONALD McQUILKAN in GORTAN who died Ap 27 177(?) and also DUNCAN McQUILKAN who died Ap 20 178(?) aged 27.

Here lies the corps of ARCHD McMILLAN tennant in BAILIE who departed this life (?) April 177(?) ahed (?)87 years.

Erected by RONALD and JOHN WALKER in memory of their father NEIL WALKER late tenant BALURE who died 26th July 1837 aged 74 years.

Erected by WILLIAM DAWSON merchant TARBERT in memory of his spouse EFFY McMILLAN who departed this life 21st May 1816 aged (?)55 years.

Here lies the corps of DONALD McMILLAN in DUNMORE who died1770 aged (?)31

This is the burial place consecrated for NEILL WALKER in BARNACRICHMARY McMILLAN his spous1723.

Erected by JOHN and DUNCAN McTAVISH in memory of their father ARCHD McTAVISH late tenant CUILGHAILTRO who died Decr 1833 aged 77 years.

Erected in memory of the deceased ANGUS McLELIAN late tenant in KILNAISH who departed this life March 17th 1807 aged 59 years.

Here lies the corps of BAIAIG McQUILKAN spous to DONALD WALKER in GORTAN who died Novr 1723 aged 33.

On back-

Here lie the remains of DUNCAN McPHAIL late farmer GORTAN who died Feby 22.1812 aged 73 years. Erected to his memory by CATHRIN WALKER his widow and family 1817.

Here lies the corps of NEILL WALKER who lived in Dunmore & died Dec 1722.

Here lies JOHN WALKER tenant in KILNAIS who died in July 17 1740 aged (58) and MARY WALKER his spouse who died 11 (-) 1735.

Here lies the corps of DUGALD McKICHAN done by JOHN McKICHAN his son MARY McPHAIL his spouse.

Appropriated by DUNC MacMURCHIE tenant at CRAIGEANN TAGACH in memory of his spouse NANCY MACLELLAN who died the 28th July 1819 aged 63 years.

Erected by ALEX McMURPHY and EFFIE McLELLAN his spouse tenant in CREIR in memory of their son JOHN McMURPHY who died 29th April 1810 aged 25 years.

IUER McMILLAN in DUNMORE.

Here lies the corps of JOHN McMILLAN tenant in CLAOCHOAG who died Novr 13th 1773 aged (?) 68.

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LOCHHEAD, S.Knapdale Parish. NR777781
(On road from Achahoish to Ellary. Circular, possibly on a large cairn).

By the President, Miss Sandeman and the Editor. 1972

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This is the burial place appointed for JOHN WHEIT in DRUM-NAMUCKLACH & ISOBEL CAMPBELL his spouses 1720

Appropriated by ARCHD and DUNCAN MACALPINE in memory of their father JOHN MACALPINE late tenant at AUCHDADUNAN who died the 5th May 1823 aged 60 years. Also of their mother CATHRINE WHYTE died the 24th Jan 1823 aged 60 years.

In memory of the Revd DUNCAN RANKIN for 36 years minister of the Parish of South Knapdale, died 5th November 1842 aged 73 years.

Here lies the corps of JOHN McKICH son to DUNCAN McKICH in LOCHHEAD who died March 1747 aged 3.

1817. Erected by WALTER TENNANT mason in memory of his son PETER who died 19th Mch aged 31 years.

Here lies the corps of DUNCAN BLACK son to DONALD BLACK who died Sepr 1762 aged 4 yers. Don by ARCHIBALD BLACK

Here lies the corps of DUNCAN McKICH who lived in LOCHHEAD South Knapdale & died July 26 1761 aged 50.

Erected by LACHLAN MacLEAN tenant at LAGGANROAIG in memory of his father CHARL'S MacLEAN late tenant BARSAGHE-BHRAGAIN who departed this life the (?) Jan 1839.

Here lies the corps of ANGUS M(c)INTAGERT who lived in LOCHHEAD & died Octr 1768 aged 76(?5). Don by ALEXAN-DEER his son.

PATRICK POLLOCK minr of the Gospel in South Knapdale. ELLEN CAMPBELL his spouse. Here lies the corps of JEAN POLLOCK dau to the s,m, PATRICK who died 17 Augst 1722 in the third year (of) her age.

Mementomorie.

Here lies the remains of ALEXR McBRIDE who was farmer in CLOCHBREEK for 54 years who departed this life Sept 11th 1809 aged 86 years. NIELL & DUGD McBRIDE 1st Febr 1815.

Erected by DUGALD and NEIL MacBRIDE in memory of their father NEIL MacBRIDE late farmer in DRIMUCKLACH who died the 9th Octr 1829 aged 81 years. Also their mother MARGARET MacLEAN his spouse, died 4th Novr 1860 aged 74 years.

D. McM(ILLAN) died in the year 1777 aged 19 years. ALEXR McMILLAN (his) bro(ther) his don this.

.....
MIADAN BEAG, S. Knapdale Parish NR737724
(On B8024 at Ormsary)

By the President, Miss Sandeman and the Editor. 1972
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Erected by RON DEWAR in memory of his sister NANC DEWAR who died in CRUITSEGAR the 1st Octr 1808.

Erected by RONALD DEORE tenant in DRIMNAMUCKLOCH on memory of his son JOHN DEORE who departed this life 11 day March 1812 aged 17 years.

Erected by DONALD McMILLAN in memory of his mother MARGARET GRAHAM who died in the year 1816 aged 57 wife of DUNCAN

McMILLAN. Also his brother ALEXR McMILLAN who died in the year 1818 aged 13 and his nephew ALEXR CRAFT who died in the year 1844 aged 26.

Erected by DONALD and DOUGALD McPHAIL in memory of there father DONALD McPHAIL late tenant in KILMALUAG who departed this life 3rd of June 1804 aged 58 years.

In memoraly of ALEXR BRYCE a mason who was killed by a fall from a scaffold at DRIM(DRISSAIG or NAMUCKLACH)
() 26th 177(?) (in the) (29th) yeare of his ag(e).

Warning take (?ye)
Mortals all from this
My unexpected fall
Remember death is all
Mens doom and I was
Cut of in my bloom.

Erected by DUNCAN and JOHN WEIR in memory of their father DONALD WEIR shoemaker Orange Bay who died 1st Jan 1851 aged 66.

Erected by his family to the memory of LACHLAN MacNEILL late shepherd at SHENEGHART who departed this life the 9th July 1823 aged 70 years.

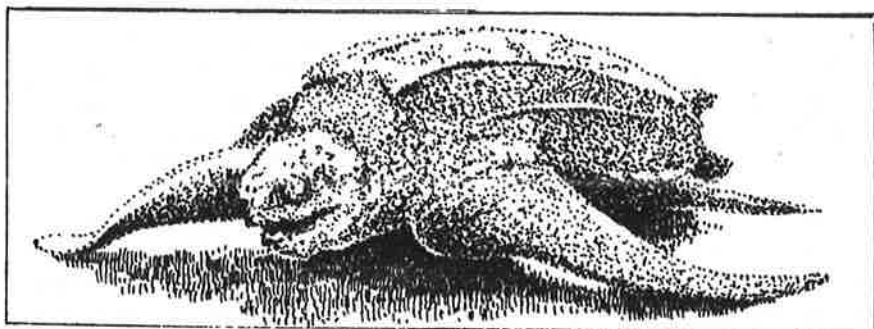
Erected by ANNE RUTHVEN at BALLYGHAVERIGAN in memory of her daughter MARGT WALKER who died in June 1854 aged 13.

Erected by MALCOM MACFARLAN shepherd in ORMSARY in memory of his son ALEXANDER who died 10th Februry 1829 aged 25
Also his daughter MARY who died 21st June 1827 aged 21.

Erected by CATHRINE TURNER in memory of her husband DUGALD McPHAIL who died at KILMALUAIG the 17th Oct 1834 aged 57
The above CATHRINE TURNER who died 2nd Feby 1868 aged 86.

Appropriated by DONALD MacCORMICK shoemaker at KILBERRY in memory of his mother ISABELLA LAMOND died the 28th July 1821 aged 57 years.

..... CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE



THE LEATHERY TURTLE in BRITISH and IRISH WATERS

G.L.King

(Summarised by the Editor)

(We have received most courteous permission to make a summary of this important and interesting survey. The author is doing a very great service towards encouraging the strict protection of this unique reptile in our coastal waters and it merits as much publicity as possible).

This survey is designed to dispel some of the misunderstandings regarding the occurrence of turtles in northern European waters. It has long been assumed that they had been carried here involuntarily by the Gulf Stream, and that those which did not perish on the way were doomed to end in sub-arctic and even arctic seas. These conclusions were based mainly on strandings of immature Kemp's Ridley Turtles (*Lepidochelys Kempii*) and on strandings or captures of young Loggerhead Turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

The position in regard to the Leatherhead Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) is different, since its northerly range apparently extends to 62°N (the latitude of the Faroe Islands) and possibly to even higher latitudes.

In this connection it has been shown that Leatherhead Turtles have a well-developed thermo-regulatory capability involving a heat-exchanger system in the flippers, and a thick oil-saturated fibrous layer beneath the cartilaginous shell in addition to very effective internal homeothermy or endothermy; all combining to produce an excellent adaptation for living in temperate waters. It has been demonstrated that the animal can maintain a body temper-

ature at least 18°C above the waters of higher latitudes, although in the warm waters near their nesting sites they may be only 2° or 3°C above the surrounding temperature.

These nesting sites occur on both sides of the Atlantic, but although *Dermochelys* is common in the Mediterranean only two reports of nesting there have been noted. It is known that turtles navigate the Gibraltar Straits in both directions.

Seasonal occurrences of Leathery Turtles along the coasts of Canada and New England seem to indicate migration connected with jelly-fish, their food supply. It seems now to be emerging that the increasing number of records of this turtle round the British Isles reflects changing patterns of movement associated with the pursuit of food.

The fact that Leathery Turtles rely mainly on jelly-fish as food, inevitably raises speculation as to what quantity of a creature which is about 95% water, is required to sustain an animal which can reach a weight of 1000kg.

Incidentally it has been surmised that the 'explosion' in jelly-fish numbers in the Mediterranean in recent years is a result of a sharp decline in turtle numbers owing to disturbance and destruction of their nesting sites, to the very real menace posed by the swallowing of plastic sheeting and bags and to their popularity as an article of Italian diet. This latter factor is illustrated by the annual slaughter of around 2000 Loggerheads in Sicily, and by commercial fishing by Italian boats just outside the Greek 6-mile territorial zone.

The results of aerial surveys of the nesting sites of *Dermochelys* have been the subject of much study and the conclusion has been reached that the animal is in danger from various sources and a strong case can be made out for urging that it be classified as meriting Endangered Status.

The Berne (Wildlife) Convention lists the Loggerhead and Leathery turtles as strictly protected, and this Convention was ratified by Ireland in 1982 so far as Irish waters are concerned.

Unfortunately, though the Berne Convention is generally implemented in Great Britain (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981), marine turtles are not listed as being protected, such status being reserved only for those marine

mammals and reptiles which are commonly found in British waters.

"I have consolidated most recorded occurrences of *Dermochelys coriacea* for the British Isles since 1971. However it has become evident that exhaustive enquiries - in person - would have to be made in fishing ports and marinas Regardless of the outcome of such a survey, it is now clear that the Leathery Turtle is a very stable element of the marine fauna of the British Isles.

".... Very little is known of the life histories and migrations of these remarkable animals. It would therefore be a far-sighted gesture to afford protection to all species that occur in the waters of the British Isles."

In the matter of its survival a major role can be played by fishermen if they take steps to release captives with care and speed from their nets. The animal has already been subjected to the trauma and distress of being entangled, towed, hoisted aboard, and only too often it is kept on deck to be exhibited at the home port. Exhaustion and difficulty in breathing out of water often cause death from respiratory collapse.

SUMMARY of SCOTTISH RECORDS SINCE 1971

- Aug. 9, 1971 S. of Bard Head, Bressay, Shetland (sighted)
- July 5, 1972 South Minch (collision)
- Sept. 4, 1973 Wester Skeld, Shetland (captured)
- Sept. 14, 1975 Luce Bay, Wigtownshire (captured)
- Oct. 10, 1975 Aberdeen Bay (captured)
- Sept. 1978 N.W. Jura (stranded). Inspected by Revd. Peter Youngson. It was entangled in rope, having apparently drowned in contact with a creel. It was much decayed.
- Oct. 3, 1980 Off Eyemouth, Berwickshire (captured)
- Nov. 25, 1980 Isle of May, Firth of Forth (sighted).
Estimated length 4-5 feet.
- Sept. 1, 1981 Off Toward, Firth of Clyde (sighted)
- Aug. 13, 1982 Off Sandray Is. Outer Hebrides (captured)
- July 9, 1983 Mouth of Loch Fyne (sighted)
- July 14, 1983 Kerry Kyle, Bute (sighted)
- July 18, 1983 Upper Loch Fyne (sighted)
- Aug. 3, 1983 Upper Loch Fyne (sighted)

Aug.23, 1983 Head of Loch Fyne (sighted)

Oct. (late) 1983 Loch Fyne (sighted)

Leathery Turtles are known to move in groups, so it is unwise to assume that sightings apparently closely related necessarily are of a single individual.

Oct.10, 1983 Kirkibost, N.Uist (captured)

Oct.19, 1983 Craignish, Argyll (stranded).

A Glasgow visitor with help from two other ladies, managed to get the turtle back into the water after it had stranded on rocks. Oddly enough, one of the four additional known records of uninjured turtles being stranded was also in Loch Craignish in 1968.

Mar.30, 1984 Granton, Edinburgh (stranded)

An additional record, outwith Mr King's starting date of 1971, occurred in August 1969 at Burrafirth, Shetland. It was entangled in a creel line and was successfully freed.

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EDITORIAL NOTE: Having read Mr King's paper, even in the abridged summary here presented, his message should be abundantly clear, but weight may perhaps be added if we emphasise that these turtles should be regarded as allies by the fishing community on account of the vast numbers of jelly-fish they consume, for pelagic jelly-fish prey on fish larvae. Unfortunately the archaic appearance of Leathery Turtles is bound to excite alarm and attention, and it is a great temptation to exhibit a specimen ashore. This trait will always be in evidence but an informed understanding of the creature's role in the overall picture of marine life will result in a better realisation of its value to fishermen as well as to the correct manner of dealing with captives.

A number of years ago Tarbert Harbour was enlivened by the presence over several days of a Leathery Turtle, seen by the Editor and many others from the Fish Quay. We estimated its length to be about 4 feet.

EILEAN NA CIRCE:

First Impressions and Second Thoughts

Marion Campbell

An August evening in 1984 brought the fulfilment of a long-held hope, thanks to the kindness of Mr and Mrs Wheeler. Glimpses of tumbled walling on a small rocky islet tantalised us when we began our 'Field Survey of Mid Argyll' in 1954, and had sadly to be labelled 'not visited' when that survey became a paper in PSAS XCV (1964); ever since, it had rebuked us mutely, but now we were crossing the dark glassy water.

One last delay, an inescapable meeting, made us late for the outing, so that we missed Mr Wheeler's account of his survey⁽¹⁾; but even that had its compensations, for as we approached 'the isle was full of voices'. Beforehand we had wondered if one boatload must leave before another could land - instead, a score of people were hidden among the trees above us. And what trees - big oaks never coppiced, an ancient hawthorn wreathed in honeysuckle, holly, birch, ash and rowan. The wall rose above us as we came alongside smooth rocks.

This girdling wall rises from the rock and is skilfully tailored into it, like an inland fort. It is slight only by comparison with those forts, and would still be impregnable if it had its top courses. These have fallen or been robbed, leaving the core exposed between two drystone faces. Perhaps all that has gone is a breastwork above a narrow pavement. The true ground-level inside the wall is masked by a considerable amount of tumbled stone and vegetation.

Inside the girdle wall are two buildings; I would call them 'houses' rather than 'huts', pace Mr Wheeler, for both have rectangular foundations. The larger house has been rebuilt - perhaps the seaward end was blown down, some winter - for its SE corner is markedly rounded, above a squared base-course. At SW its ruined corner may overlie the outer wall, but such arguments are specious without excavation.

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(1) M.W.Wheeler, Kist 28, p.22

A stronger hint that the house is newer than the wall comes from the inside, where the inner side of the southern end has a vertical niche at the centre. I am strongly inclined to think this a cruck-slot, and a rare one, the 'hip-cruck' to support a rounded roof and take the thrust of the ridge-pole. (The only other example I have seen is at Auchindrain in the byre-end of 'Stoner's House'). A hasty search disclosed a possible side cruck-slot in the west wall, with a damaged area facing it on the east; none of these slots extends to the presently visible base of the wall. Perhaps we have here another example, well-known at Auchindrain, of the danger of incorporating crucks into drystone walls. Crucks are fine frames for wattle or turf walls, but neglected and sodden thatch can force them to splay out and kick the walls down. If anyone were to find signs of a hearth against the north gable, with the presumption of a clay-and-wattle chimney up the wall-face, we should then have a typical Knapdale house of the 18th-19th century, with one gable and one hipped end. Examples can be seen at Kilmory Oib, a mile away.

This is not to suggest that the girdle-wall is recent. It can hardly be later than early-medieval, and might well be prehistoric in origin. Perhaps the depth of soil comes from a whole series of turf-walled huts and old thatch.

Before setting out later reflections, I feel I must reinstate Dr Christison's 'landing-place on the N side' (in fact at NW, below a breach in the girdle wall). (1) Two lines of boulders extending underwater, and a small area of shore cleared of large stones, strongly suggest a place where a small boat could be run in and drawn up. There is little tidal movement here, far up the long Caol Scotnish, but winter storms can build up a scend, and a boat would need shelter. (Mr Wheeler's sketch-plan in Kist 28 omits the patch of shore, which would extend to the frame of the plan). The breach (his 'section washed away by storms') may have been a back door, or - if we are being grand - a postern.

Some of our expedition were wondering if the inhabitants could have even one cow, in the smaller building; of course a cow could have been brought from either shore, towed swimming behind a boat, but her food would have been more

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(1) Dr D. Christison, PSAS XXXVIII, p.241.

awkward (I would rather tow a cow than ferry a haystack). I think a pitcher of milk and a tub of cheese would be easier cargoes than either.

And here the 'second thoughts' begin in earnest. A look at the relevant 6" Ordnance Survey maps (CLIX SE and CLIX SW) reminds me of a jetty marked 400 yards to the south, with a winding path some 350 yards long to Oibmore, a settlement of several houses, with a well. Nearer the island, to NE, there is a faint long ruin on a tiny promontory - a house, with its own spring somewhere near perhaps (though we did not find it) - even a 'crew-house' for the men and stores of a seagoing birlinn. If one ceases to dwell obsessively on (literal) 'isolation' and thinks instead of many Argyll mansions, with their walled gardens and their home farms tucked away in the 'policies', then Oibmore and the other point are no farther away from the 'big hoose'. Some 1000 yards to the north, across the Caol and the road, lies the farmhouse of Gallchoille, with its older settlement uphill behind it. This name was familiar to me before I began fieldwork, for around 1649 a daughter of the first Campbell of Kilberry married Hector MacNeill of 'Galdchailzie and Knap'.

This is a cadet line of the MacNeills of Taynish and Gigha, Keepers of Castle Sween for the Lords of the Isles until succeeded in that office by MacMillans (who were Keepers at the time of the forfeiture in 1490). The MacNeill pedigree is confused in minor detail (too many men share too few first names) but the main line is clear; they descend from an 11th-12th century Niall, son or nephew of Aodh Alainn son of Anrothan; and from Anrothan it runs back unbroken through the great Cinel Eoghainn, kings of Ailech (near Derry), to Niall Glundubh ('Black-knee') who died in 919, and from him to Niall of the Nine Hostages himself. As D.W.H. Sellar says (1) in a study which has been my guide and which I would love to quote more fully, the O'Neill pedigree is "one of the only two in Europe that can be traced indisputably in the male line from the present day to the 5th or 4th century AD".

Anrothan, younger son of a King of Ailech who died in 1033, quarrelled with his elder brother and led a group to

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(1) W.D.H. Sellar: 'Family Origins in Cowal and Knapdale'

Scottish Studies 15, pt1, p.21.

settle in Argyll, where he made treaty with the King of Scots (Malcolm II mac Kenneth, d.1034) and married a Scots princess. From him descend MacSweens, MacMhuirichs, Lamonts, MacSorleys (of Monydrain), MacGilchrist's later Gilchrist, MacLachlans of that ilk, and of Dunadd, MacEwens of Otter, MacNeills (of Taynish, Gigha, eventually Colonsay) and MacDonnsleibhes who became MacLeays of the Argyll branch and Livingstones. By the 13th.c. they held Knapdale, North Kintyre, Glassary and much of Cowal (except the 'King's Quarter' or ceathramh ri, whence 'Kerry' in recent usage). Some built notable castles - Sween, Tarbert, Skipness - or lesser holds such as Finchairn and probably Kilberry, or they renovated old forts such as MacEwen's Castle and Dun Mhuirich. All of them had "webbed feet" and lived on and from the sea. Of their abodes, only MacEwen's Castle has been excavated lately, yielding a few early medieval objects and traces of a large turf-walled house. (1)

Eilean na Circe fits snugly into the series, a defensible dwelling such as would be called a 'house of fence' in later Scots parlance, to which MacNeill's household could retire in time of war, or he himself feast at ease with his galley anchored in the 4-fathom eastern passage while small boats brought supplies from his farms ashore. It might even be here that a MacNeill widow composed her classic lament, 'Thou rosary that wakens my tear'. (2)

Habits change with times; cramped quarters, acceptable for safety's sake, are abandoned for larger houses ashore. Dun Mhuirich (3), beyond Taynish, with its anchorage under the walls, is only slightly bigger than the island (150' by 60' overall, against Eilean na Circe's 120' by 50'). Here too, rectangular houses were fitted inside old walls; a local informant claims that "it was Curries from Ireland that built it", 'Curries' being an acceptable derivative of MacMhuirich. Finchairn, held in 1240 by a Mac-
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- (1) Miss D.N. Marshall, Glas. Arch. J. 10. For turf-walling see R. Ross Noble, FOLKLIFE 22.
- (2) Scottish Verse from the Bk. of the Dean of Lismore, ed. W.J. Watson.
- (3) KIST 13 (cover); PSAS XXXVIII, p.245, and XCV, p.50.

Gilchrist, is scarcely larger, perched on its rock above Loch Awe.

When great men move on, their dependants move in. Alexander III, visiting his castle of Elgin in 1261, was moved to enquire by what right a crossbowman had taken over the royal garden, but on finding that the man had married the gardener's daughter, agreed to grant title in due form, with a proviso about supplying vegetables to the kitchens when required. I should not be surprised to find a MacNeill fisherman ensconced in Eilean na Circe in the 18th century.

We went home over the quiet water, a flotilla of little boats returning from a happy evening on the Hen's Island - not the first, and doubtless not the last, so to do.

THREE MID-ARGYLL STANCES

Colin F. Fergusson

Very often at some time of the day at least one or two large loaded cattle lorries pass through Tarbert, either being driven to some auction mart for sale, perhaps in a distant part of the country, or returning after purchase; it is a far cry from the cattle droving of the past.

Then auctions, or trysts as they were called, were held at great distances from our area, such as Crieff or Falkirk, and the cattle with their drovers had to walk the whole way, come rain or shine. This was no hurried walk as the cattle had to arrive at the tryst in as prime condition as possible to enable them to command a good price for the drover and his clients.

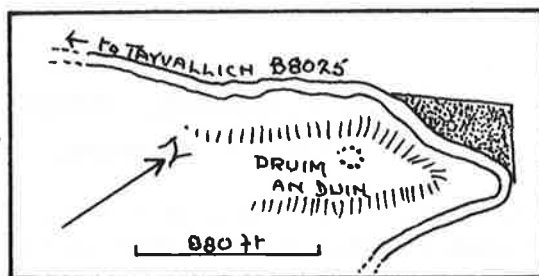
Hill tracks and old roads, wending their way carefully by the easiest of gradients, are plentiful in the district. So it was essential to have overnight stops, better known as stances, at regular intervals along the way. As the droves made their ten to twelve miles per day journey to market, these stances were a welcome relief to the cattle. There they found good grazing, water and rest, for they were not used to such long walks.

At some of the stances there was an inn nearby where the drovers themselves could find food and drink. Also,

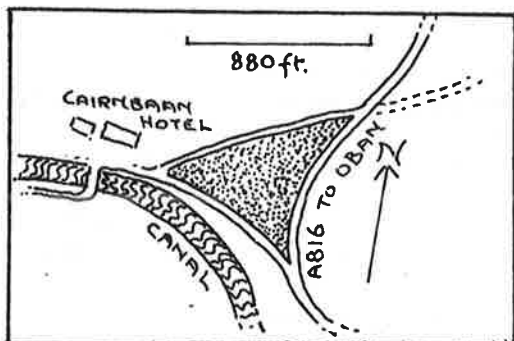
provided the stance was well secured with walls and fences with little fear of the cattle straying from it, the drovers could find shelter for the night. Generally, however, they were as hardy as their cattle; well wrapped up in their plaids and from the lee of a rock or wall, they watched over their herds during the hours of darkness in case some of them had the urge to wander off or even make their way back home - such was their homing instinct.

The raising of cattle maintained in part the economy of the Highlands, the surplus being sold off at the end of the summer if not killed for home consumption. Grazing during spring and summer was plentiful. However the making of hay was not practised in the islands and along the west coast until after 1754, so the over-wintering of stock was restricted to the breeding beasts.

Gleann a'Ghaolbhan
NR782914



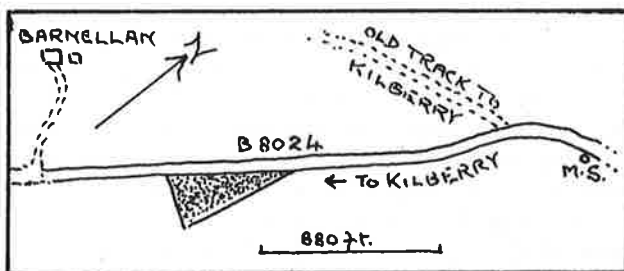
Of the three stances in our area dealt with here, perhaps the best-known is at the top of Gleann a'Ghaolbhan (the Glen of the White Swan) above the head of Caol Scotnish, on the road to Tayvallich. This site, now covered in rough grass and rushes, has been left unplanted by the Forestry Commission, on whose land it lies. Low stone walls on two sides, with the third side of the triangle formed by a steep boulder-strewn rock face leading up to Druim an Duin, would make this an ideal place to keep cattle safe for an overnight stay. At the bottom of the Glen, on the left-hand side of the present road, are the ruins of a deserted settlement consisting of several houses and an inn. All are now roofless but it is noticeable that of all the buildings, the walls and gables of the inn stand almost intact. Cattle from the islands of Islay and Jura travelling by the Lagg and Keills ferry, would no doubt use this stance on their first night on the mainland.



Cairnbaan
NR840908

At the second mile-stone from Lochgilphead on the road to Oban, is the next of our stances. Again triangular in shape, it is bounded by three walls and alongside each wall now-a-days runs a road. Grazing and water would be adequate for a halt here for a fair-sized drove, and what could be better than a tolerable inn across the road to look after the well-being of the drovers. This area of ground, though capable of being farmed and easy of access, has been in a rough foggage state for many years. The only use to which it was put within memory was during the 1930s when Salvona's Travelling Circus would set up on this site, not for one night but at times for several weeks.

Nearby and running parallel with the present A816 road is an old road to Kilmichael. There in a bend of the River Add, below both old and new bridges, were held the Kilmichael trysts, the main one being on the last Wednesday in May.



Barnellan
NR804666

The third stance is less well known and is situated on the Tarbert to Kilberry road near the small farm of Bar-

nellan. Enclosed on one side by a boundary wall with a short spur of wall at right angles, it is enclosed on the third leg by a fairly deep peat-bottomed ditch. An old track to Kilberry starts nearby at what is locally known as Nellie's Tent, and the present single-track road would appear to cut lengthwise through the stance. A matter of 400 yards away are the remains of some buildings. It is now speculation whether the cattle were being driven from the Kintyre area by the hill track to Kilberry and thence north via Ormsary, or by the rough road north from Tarbert above Loch Fyne to join the main drove roads. The former route would appear more probable in view of the excellent prospects of obtaining more cattle from this better-managed farming area.

There was generally no droving during the winter, with most of the movement taking place between June and October. However it was not all sunshine, and west-coast weather could be unpredictable even in summer. On the higher hills morning mists ensured a wet start to man and beast.

The long journeys which then took so many days to complete, can be done in as many hours or less in the back of a well-maintained lorry driven by one careful man.

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* So named because it was the site chosen by a pack-woman as her headquarters.

FOOTNOTE to 'A RECORDED KILMARTIN STONE' (Kist 28)

F.S.Mackenna

Since writing about the stone in Kilmartin churchyard carved by Mossman, a number of references to the sculptor and his Glasgow firm have been brought to notice by Mr Donald Mackechnie. The Inveraray fountain, erected in 1893, came from 'Mossman & Son'. In Kist 27 (p.10) Mr Mackechnie mentions the erection of a monument in Kilmalieu graveyard in 1894, which had been "supplied by Messrs Mossman and Son, Sculptors, Glasgow".

Taking the three dates into consideration, it must appear that Cockburn's "lad" of 1840 had become Mossman père by 1893. The firm was established in 1816, so presumably the 1840 Mossman was a son of the founder. A John Mossman died about 1890, but as we are not given a forename for

the Kilmartin carver it can only be suggested that this may be he. Apparently there were no Mossmans in the firm after that, though the name was retained.

There must be many other examples of their work throughout Scotland and it would be of interest to know of them. Mrs Hall understands that the Mossman firm supplied many of the carved embellishments still to be seen on and in public buildings in Glasgow - so apparently they did not confine themselves to furnishing memorial stones.

In a footnote to the Kist 28 article, some explanation of the name 'Experiment' was given. This can now be amplified from a reading of the 'New Statistical Account', vol.VII, 1845. "Great improvements have been made in the draining, cultivating, and subdividing of the arable and pasture land in the Parish [Kilmartin] within the last forty years, as well as in the mode of farm management and husbandry, particularly on the Poltalloch estate. Tile draining is now practised by Mr Malcolm on a large scale; and for that purpose a tile-work has been erected in the valley of Kilmartin*, where suitable clay is found in abundance. Under the judicious management of Mr Gow the superintendent of improvements on the Poltalloch estate, about 1500 acres have already been drained, 700 of which are now under cultivation or pasture the time may not be very far distant when the whole of this magnificent flat will be prepared for the plough, the sickle and the scythe".

* The clay pit and the works, with workmens' cottages, were situated at the west end of the Long Walk, which connects the Oban road at Ballymeanach with the Poltalloch East Lodge, the pit on the right of the road and the other parts of the enterprise across the way. Except for the depression caused by the removal of the clay, very little trace remains of the various buildings. As a number of the estate houses in the vicinity are brick-built, it may be possible that the bricks were locally made, for such a type of building is decidedly uncommon in this part of the county. The fact that no stamps have been found on any of these bricks which have been examined might seem to strengthen such an idea, for imported bricks, from one of the established works, would almost certainly be stamped.

Information supplied by Mrs C.M.N.Hall.

NOTE on the COVER

The Barrnakill stone, although no longer in its original position, has two points of interest - the form of the incised cross and the presence of an inscription. It was first noticed by Lacaille in 1925, (P.S.A.S. LIX. p.147).

"Half a mile north of Dunardry Locks, Crinan Canal, and a few yards to the east of the rough track leading to the farm of Upper Barrnakill a granite pillar, 3 feet 11 inches in height, 16 inches broad, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, stands loosely between two boulders of a ruined drystone wall. The west face bears a cross with small transverse channels at the ends of the arms. It was noted that at the base of the cross were other carvings, which were seen to be Hiberno-Saxon miniscules the last three letters are in excellent preservation, but the first three letters seem incomplete It is doubtful whether the Barrnakill monument occupies its original position."

Whether or not this conjecture be correct, the stone is now to be found in the grounds of St Columba's Chapel, Poltalloch, in company with other displaced mediaeval stones from the surrounding area (see Kist 26).

Our measurements differ somewhat from those given by Lacaille, for we found the height to be 4ft 4ins and the maximum width 14ins.

The carving of the cross is deep and clear, being defective only at the end of the left arm, where a fracture has occurred. Its main interest lies in the expanded terminals to the arms, which are not to be confused with the linear terminals found throughout western Scotland and in Ireland, each closely resembling the Cross Potent of Heraldry, sometimes known as a Teutonic Cross from the fact that it formed the badge of a military-religious Order founded by the Duke of Swabia in 1190.

Incidentally the two cross-carved stones with linear terminals reported by Lacaille in P.S.A.S. LVI. p.125, as being in Tìree at Hynish House, are now missing.

Crosses with expanded ends, such as the one here illustrated, are sufficiently uncommon in our area as to merit attention, apart from the inscription.

Undoubtedly the main but tantalising interest of the Barrnakill stone lies in the lettering below the cross. It is carried out in Irish miniscules. Only the three terminal letters can now be read, and the total number in

the original inscription is uncertain but probably there were seven. So the message eludes us.

Regarding the purpose of the cross, Miss Campbell of Kilberry suggests that it may be one of a series of Termon Crosses originally marking the limit of Church land at Barrnakill.

A note of warning should perhaps be sounded here regarding the interpretation of names containing 'kil' or 'kill'. Too often there is a temptation to regard them as denoting a place of sanctity, from the Gaelic 'cill' a holy man's retreat. While this is undoubtedly the general meaning, there are instances, of which Barrnakill is one, where the Gaelic word 'coille' (a wood) is indicated. Local knowledge is of great help in deciding the question, and as in the case of Barrnakill (Ridge of the Wood) an actual inspection often settles the matter. Many a supposed 'saint' has been sought for in vain because of this confusion when 'kil' occurs in a place-name.

The following suggestion seems not to have been made before, but it may not be too fanciful to see a connection between the various ancient sites on the Barrnakill ridge and the proximity of Dunadd. Although we have not actually investigated the possibility of a former causeway between the two places, a visual inspection from the summit of Dunadd or from the terminal point of the 'Barr' cannot fail to note an intermittent line of scrub connecting the two across the bog. Allowing for the growth of peat over the intervening centuries, this does seem to suggest a former access way. As for Barrnakill, apart from the deserted settlement near its tip, there are a ruined lime-kiln which incorporates an earlier structure, nearby remains of other artefacts, the famous 'two-left-hands' carved on a rocky outcrop, an ancient well and at least two other crosses, one very elusive and one with terminal bars to the arms, as in the Tíree examples, to add to the Poltalloch cross.

Most unhappily the area was seriously damaged a few years ago by the irresponsible activities of a film unit. The settlement was reconstructed, the well 'modernised' and the lime-kiln refurbished. This was not the whole story of vandalism within our limits, for a highly important fort beyond Kilmartin was utterly ruined by the same agency.