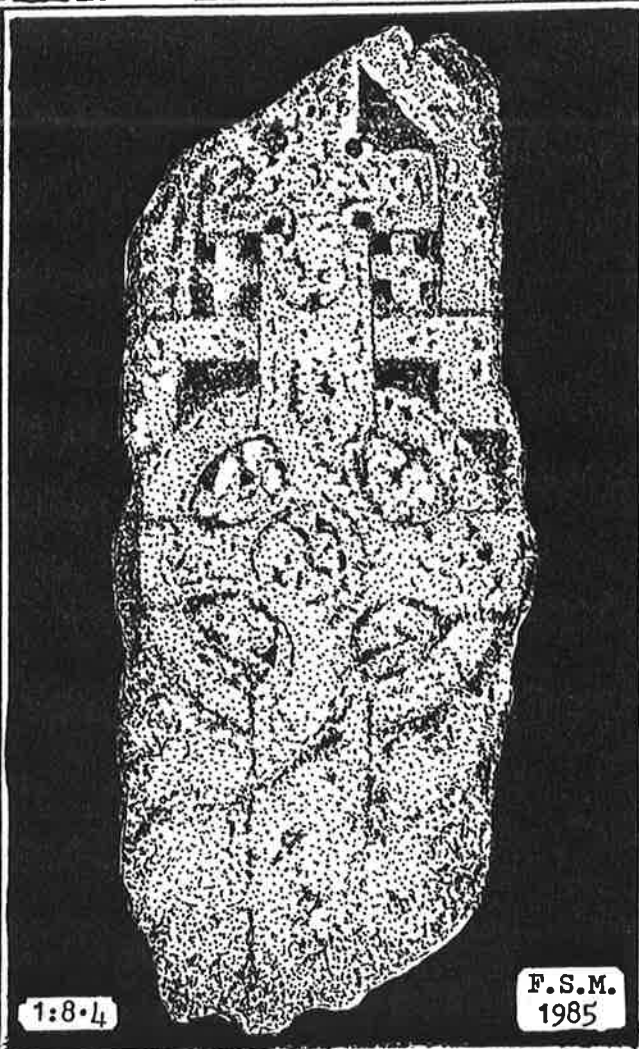




Cross Slab at Kilmichael
of Inverlussa.



1:8.4

F.S.M.
1985

The



KIST 31

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
.....

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Hon. Secretary for Membership and Publications

Mr E.S.Clark, MA. FSAScot. Northlea, Tarbert, Argyll
(T.793)

Price 60p. (Post extra)

KILMICHAEL of INVERLUSSA: A NOTABLE DISCOVERY

Marion Campbell

The Editor has asked me to comment on the object shown on page 2 and on the cover. Its existence was unknown when we made our Field Survey(1); it was found by Dr K.A. Steer, then Secretary of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, during his work on medieval inscribed stones(2), and located in 1985 by Commission investigators preparing the Mid Argyll volume of their Argyll Survey.

The early-19th c. Parish Church of Inverlussa stands at NR775859, overlooking the inner reaches of Loch Sween. It has some interesting 17th. - and 18th. c. stones in its kirkyard, but was not thought to have anything older. An earlier church-site lies some way uphill, at NR777862, marked only by grassy banks and a spring. The 'new' stone might have come from there, or from some other early graveyard, brought to serve as a gravestone when good carvers were scarce. The practice was widespread; KIST 6 (1973) contained notes on an early Christian stone found at ruins within the forest above Achnamara, and the fine medieval Crucifix at Kilmartin is known to have been brought 'from a nearby crossroads' to the grave of a blacksmith's mother in the 1830s.

The stone, a crystalline schist, has already suffered severe damage and weathering. It is to be hoped that no KIST reader will be tempted to make rubbings or do anything that might cause more harm. The surviving carvings are already so faint as to be invisible in certain lights, and the stone has been broken on all four edges. One side only is carved. Perhaps half the original length is lost; the surviving fragment is 3'11" x 1'6" x 2" (all max.).

The Editor's careful drawings, based on slides, show that the head has been triangular and that dwarf arms once projected on either side. A wide border around the top encloses a cross with two smaller crosses under its arms; its shaft grows out of the head of the main cross, which is backed by a ring or halo. Another band, forming a groundline to the smallest crosses, runs behind the shaft of the upper cross and can be seen to turn at right-angles near the present edge of the stone so as to outline the ends of the lost 'arms'; these have projected no more than 2" at most. The main cross, whose arms extended into

1:4
FSM
1985



these small lugs, is of similar form though of exceptional quality. It has a central disc. like the central boss of a High Cross, which is filled by three coiling forms; its arms are filled with a leafy interlace.

The spaces enclosed between the limbs of the cross and its ring contain crouching figures, the two upper of which, facing outwards, appear to play musical instruments, perhaps a harp and a pipe of sorts. The lower figures are more damaged, but seem to face down and outwards; perhaps they also held instruments.

Below the ring and beside the main shaft have been other carvings, now almost invisible. On each side the uppermost element might be a large oval or rounded form, and there might be an upright line between the left-hand form, as one faces it, and the shaft. At this point it is tempting to consider a stone of the same general shape, though larger and with different patterning; this is the cross-slab at Fahan Mura, in Co. Donegal, described and illustrated by Mlle. Henry(3). That stone has a gabled top and small lugs, and is carved on both faces with a large cross of 'basket-work' interlace which fills the upper part of the stone. Beside the shaft, on one face, stand two human figures facing inward, one holding a staff. Fahan Mura is famous for something else, an inscription in Greek letters of a form of invocation to the Trinity used in 7th.c. Spain and in Ireland from the 7th. to 9th. century.

There is no possibility that the carver could have attempted an edge inscription to the Kilmichael stone, because of the nature of the material, and his design is very different from that of Fahan Mura. It is closest to a page from the Book of Kells, the famous Gospel-book believed to have been started in Iona and taken to Ireland for safety around 815 AD, at the height of the Viking raids. Our area had close links with Iona, not least because the stones for the St. John's Cross came from Doide quarry, farther down Loch Sween. There is no problem in the idea that a local mason might have brought back a design from Iona for a commission in his home area, although only a master-craftsman could have translated it so expertly into stone.

Something must be said about those curious lugs. It seems that the new find may be one more example of the evolution of the High Cross from simple cross-marked slabs. Ancient tradition in the Celtic lands opposed the

naturalistic depiction of religious mysteries, just as Druidic teaching (so far as we know it) seems to have opposed the writing down of learning; in pre-Christian metalwork there is always the hint of an eye concealed among coils, or a body entwined within plaitwork. It was a tradition which veiled the mysteries from the uninitiated, and it seems to have revived in Ireland once the Church was firmly established. The figure of the Crucified is seldom shown; instead, the central disc of a plaitwork cross may be filled with a smaller cross set at an angle, as if to suggest a leaning head (one example is a small stone built into a dyke at the former Free Church Manse of Minard. The stone at Killevin (KIST 30) may show death as a cross, burial as a round grave-enclosure, and resurrection as a smiling face. If Kilmichael really had portrait-figures, it marks a stage in the evolution of art in the Dalriadic sphere of influence in, perhaps, the early 9th century.

However it is dated, it is a splendid find on which the Commission investigators are to be congratulated. We eagerly await their expert comment when the Mid Argyll volume is completed in a few years' time.

NOTES.

1. Mid Argyll - a Field Survey. Campbell & Sandeman
PSAS. XCV Session 1961-62
2. Late Medieval Monumental Sculpture in the West
Highlands. K.A. Steer & J.W.M. Bannerman. HMSO 1977
3. Irish Art in the Early Christian Period to AD 800
Françoise Henry. Methuen (1965 ed.)

...oooOooo...

"About a mile north of Inverlussay, is Barnangad, or "the eminence of withies," almost embosomed in woods. In early times, tenants had not, as at present, hempen ropes for the purpose of husbandry. They were obliged to use pliant twigs of willow, birch, or hazel, which they twisted and used instead of ropes, in their agricultural pursuits; hence the origin of the name of this farm, from the number of withies it produced."

Description of North Knapdale. Archd. Currie. 1830

PRE-1855 INSCRIBED GRAVESTONES in KNAPDALE. Part 3.

KILMICHAEL INVERLUSSA, S.Knapdale Parish NR775859

(Off Cl2, past Achnamara)

By F.S.Mackenna 1984

ALEX MILLOY tennant of ASHFIELD who erected this monument
.... in memory of his wife HELEN McINTYRE who departed
this life (?2nd) November (?1711) year of her life.
Also in memory of NEIL MILLOY at sea on the 11th April
.... in the year of....

Erected by HELEN GLENDINNING to the memory of her beloved
husband WALTER KETCHIN late shepherd at ASHFIELD who in
attempting to cross the ice on one of the lakes in the
hill was drowned 22nd day of Decr 1853 aged 20 years.
Also of their daughter JANET who died 25th Sepr 18(?)3
aged 6 months.

Erected by JOHN McINTYRE and his wife MARY MILLOY in mem-
ory of JOHN their son who died 11 April 1832 aged 15 years
and of their son who died in infancy 181(?)8).

Erected by the Rev. JOHN D.CAMPBELL minister of the parish
of ABERDOUR, FIFE in memory of his father the Rev. JOHN
CAMPBELL late minister of the parish of NORTH KNAPDALE
who died in 18(?)15 aged 51 years and his paternal uncle
DANIEL CAMPBELL surgeon R.N. who died at KILFINNAN Manse
in 1811.

Erected by ARCHD JOHNSON, Mount Muirhead, AUSTRALIA in
memory of his father DUNCAN JOHNSON late farmer GARIOB who
departed this life 20th January 1826 aged 65 years.

Erected by JANE WALKER and her children in memory of her
husband JOHN JOHNSTON who died the 21st March 1799 aged
54 years.

Erected to the memory of PETER CLERK who died on the
(?11th Feb) 181(?)8) in the 20th (?28th) year of his age.

Erected by ARCHD CAMPBELL innkeeper BELLANOCH in memory

of his father NEIL CAMPBELL late farmer (?in) ARDRISHAIG who departed this life Febr 6th 1791 aged 56 years. Also his brother ANG. CAMPBELL who departed this life 1810 aged 22 years.

The burial place of ALEXANDER CAMPBELL merchant KILNI(?) who died 179(?)8). Here also is interred his son Revd ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL for 30 years minister in this parish who died 28th April 1810 aged 63 years.

.....

KILMORY Knap, N.Knapdale Parish NR702750
(Near the end of C42 on E. side of Loch Sween)

By F.S.Mackenna 1984

Erected by ARCHIBALD McCORMICK farmer KILBRIDE in memory of HECTOR his son who died at ARRAN 23rd December 1838 aged 40 years. The bark is still, the storm is over.

Here lies the corps of JOHN McINTYRE tennant in ARDNEW who died on Decmr 27th 1746 aged (?33). Don by ARCHIBALD his son.

Erected by DONALD PATTERSON tenant and his spouse SARAH McLACHLAN in memory of their son ARCHIBALD who departed this life on the 1(?)th August 1851 aged 21 years.

Here lies the corps of DUNCAN McILICHOLOM son to ALEXANDER McILICHOLOM in (?ILANDEOIRE) who died March 27th 173(4 or 5) aged (?).

Erected by DUNCAN McLACHLAN tenant CASTLE SWEEN in memory of his spouse (?JANET) McMillan who departed this life the 12th July 1827 aged (?78) years.

Erected by PETER McLACHLAN in memory of his father DONALD McLACHLAN who died at ARDNEW 20th Novr 1835 aged 58 years. Also his spouse SARAH SMITH who died 19th May 1863 aged 76.

Erected by ARCHIBALD KERR mariner in memory of his father ALEXR KERR who departed this life on April 12th 1828 aged 84 years.

Erected by DONALD McCORMICK farmer KILBRIDE in memory of his father ARCHD McCORMICK late farmer KILBRIDE who departed this life 18th March AD1846 aged 84 years. Also son of above DONALD MacCORMICK who died 18th Aug 1848 aged 10 years. Also his wife MARGARET GRAHAM who died at TAYNISH 2nd June 1855 aged 89 years.

JOHN GRAHAM died March (?11) aged (?6) years.

Sacred to the memory of JOHN GRAHAM farmer who died at (?DUNGLASAN) 10th July 1851 aged 68 years.

Sacred to the memory of LILLY GRAHAM wife of JOHN GRAHAM farmer who died at (?DUNGLASAN) (?)th April 1852 aged 68 years.

Erected by MARGARET LIVINGSTON, STRONEFIELD in memory of her husband ARCHIBALD McKELLAR late tenant at STRONEFIELD who departed this life on the 19th April 1853 aged 64 years.

Erected by JOHN GRAHAM shipmaster in memory of his mother MARY GRAHAM who died at CASTLE SWEEN 17th Nov 185(?0).

.....

CARSAIG, N.Knapdale Parish NR735875
(Off B8025 at Tayvallich)

By F.S.Mackenna 1984
(With corrections and elucidations by
Mr Ian Fisher of the Royal Commission)

1864 Erected by JOHN & ARCHIBALD McNEIL in memory of father DONALD McNEIL, ARDNACKAIG born March 25, 1770 died March 1836 and their mother CHRISTINA McCALLUM died January 13th 1835 aged 66 years.

Here lies the corps of JOHN McKICHAN alias McDONALD son to GILLBERT McKICHAN in KNAP who died Febr 2d 1751 aged 26 (years). Don by DUGAL McKICHAN.

1781 Here layes JOHN GRAHAM & his spouse erected by ISABEL GRAHAM his daughter.

Erected by MARY and CATHARINE GRAHAM in memory of their father HUGH GRAHAM, GLENSAUL died July 15 1847 aged 67 years. And their mother ANN JOHNSTON died Oct 16 1847 aged 68 years. The above CATHERINE GRAHAM wife of ARCHIBALD McNEIL died 3rd September 1864 aged 60 years.

ALEX GRAHAM, TAYVALLICH died August 9 1810 aged 60 years,

Here lyeth the body of DNIEL BACKSTER who died in the year 1760 aged 60 years.

In memory of CATHERINE MacNEIL wife of DUNCAN BLACK late tenant GALLCHOILLY died March - 18(17 or 47) aged 61 (or 64) years.

Erected by NEIL McNEILL, ARDNACKAIG in memory of his father MALCOLM McNEILL late tacksman ARDNACKAIG who died 2nd March 1837 aged 84 years and his mother HELEN GRAHAM who died 6th March 1840 aged 85 years. Also his son JAMES who died 1st Feby 1845 aged 24 years.

Erected by DUGALD CAMPBELL in SCOTNISH in memory of his children FLORA and DUGALD who departed this life the former on the 18th May 1814 aged (?12) years. The latter on the 16 May 182(?3 or 4) aged 23 years. Also the erector1826 aged 63 years.

Erected by ARCHIBALD MUNN tenant in ARINAFAD MORE in memory of his brother NIEL who died 20 March 1816 aged 21 years.

This is the burying place of ANGUS GRAHAM who died at ARDNACKAIG 1760 aged 60 years and of his wife and their children

This is the burying place of ROGER GRAHAM Esquire late of ARDNACKAIG who departed this life on the 9th April 1804

Erected by ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL farmer GRUINART, ISLAY in memory of his parents DUNCAN CAMPBELL died 18(?4)0. SARAH McKay his wife died 1852. ANGUS CAMPBELL their son died 1835.

Erected by JOHN McLEOD innkeeper TAYVALLICH in memory of his daughter MARY McLEOD who died 16th October 1839 aged 2 years 6 months.

Erected by DUNCAN McLEOD innkeeper at TAYVALLICH in memory of his father ARCHIBALD McLEOD and of his mother MARY McGUGAN the former departed this life the 29th Jan'y 1811 aged 71 years the latter 2nd June 1821 aged 73.

Erected by HECTOR McLEAN, TAYVALLICH in memory of his wife MARGARET CAMPBELL who died January 14th 1846 aged 40 years Also his two sons MALCOLM lost at sea

Family burying ground of NIEL CAMPBELL, BELLANOCH in memory of his son NIEL who died on the 18th June 1840 aged 4 years.

Erected by DUNCAN McMILLAN farmer FERNOCH in memory of his father DUNCAN McMILLAN late farmer COSHINDROCHID died 1852 aged 91. Also his son MALCOLM died 1853 aged 19 and of his daughter CATHERINE(The rest are post-1855).

Erected by RODRICK McLEOD gallick teacher from the parish of ASSYNT in memory of his son MURDOCH who died 20 Nov 1832 aged 14 years.

Additional inscriptions read by Mr Ian Fisher

Here lyes the corps of JOHN ANDERSON hammerman in TAIGH-BHELLICH who died March the 3 1736 aged 77 also appointed for JANET ROBERTSON his spous & their children.

Here lye the corps of ANGUS McINTAYLER son to MALCOM McINTAYLER in ARDBEG who dayed Decr 1749 aged 21 years.

Here lyes ALEXR HUIE shipmaster in SALTCOTS ..17 Feb. 1749 aged 73.

Here lye the corps of DUNCAN McLAUCHLAN son to INNISCHONNELL who dyd at TAYVOLLLICH in 1739 aged 66 years. this don by the devotion of MARGARET his dou(ghter).

JOAN CAMPBELL spous to DUNCAN BAXTER in CARSAIG d. Jan 1755 aged ... and appointed to MARGARET CAMPBELL her mother and DUNCAN BAXTER their burying place.

To the memory of NEIL BLUE tenant in DOWNIE 26 June 1799 aged 65 years erected ... by ... wife MARY KERR.

PATRICK MUNRO aged 34 years died June 1793.

Erected by NIEL McCALLUM in KINTALLAN to daughter MARGRAT d. 2 March 1822 aged 14 years.

MOR GRAHAM spous to DONALD GRAHAM, BARN.... taxman of BARNASHALLAG who died ... 1761.

JOHN CAMPBELL tacksman of DUNTAYNISH Aug 1839 aged 56.

HENDRETH McLAUCHLAN spous to DUNCAN SMITH hammerman att TAYVALLICH d. 17 Feb 1750 aged 27 years.

By DUNCAN McGUGAN weaver at TAYVALLICH in memory of his daughter BETTY who died May 1836 aged 24 years.

JOHN CAMPBELL late merchant in TAYVALLICH d. 21 June 1819 aged 52 erected by DONALD CAMPBELL his brother.

This is the place appointed for the buriall of ARCHIBALD McALASTER in TAYVALLICH and ANN BROWN his spouse and there children 1731.

.....

KEILLS, N.Knapdale Parish NR690805
(At end of B 8025)

By F.S.Mackenna 1984

Here lie the corps of DUNCAN McLEAN son of NEIL McLEAN and (?ANN ...) who died Februry (?7) 1764 aged (?3) years.

(These three stones lie side by side)

H * B : B : Erected by DUNCAN CAMPBELL forester OIB
1829 : 1829 : MORE to the memory of HECTER BAXTER who
died February 9th 1829 aged 36 years.

(CONTINUED on PAGE 20)

NEILL MALCOLM - SLAVE

Mrs Noel Hall has given us extracts from an interesting story of Queen Anne's time, which she happened to notice in the Poltalloch Papers. It was written by a nephew of the said Neill Malcolm. We give a summary of the epic.

Neill was 3rd son of Duncan Malcolm, who was himself 3rd son of Archibald Malcolm of Airidh Sceodnish (the eldest son married a daughter of the Laird of Duntroon). Neill went to sea, in the care of "Mr Donald Campbell, merchant" in the Africa Co. of Glasgow ship Caledonia. They were captured "by the noted Pirate Everey and carried into Madagascar. All the crew were murdered except Neill and Donald Campbell, who were sold to a Black Prince." When this potentate died Neill became the property of a French warship's captain and eventually gained promotion in the French navy. His ship was lost in an engagement in the Channel with the English and he was landed at Gosport. He appeared before Queen Anne and was offered a chance to transfer to the English service. This was declined and he was sent back to France and rose to become Superintendent of Marine at Brest and the possessor of the Order of St Louis. He married into the French nobility.

The story continues that on a visit in his ship to Belfast he contacted his brother Archibald, by then living in Ireland, and his sister, the mother of the narrator, who had married a Co. Antrim man, Andrew Green,

Mrs Hall has, in addition, given details of "the noted Pirate Everey". Captain John Avery, alias Henry Every, was born near Plymouth about 1665. When 1st officer of a privateer he organised a mutiny at Cadiz and began a spectacular career of piracy which caught popular fancy and made him the subject of books and plays. His most famous exploit was the capture of a ship of the Great Mogul's, complete with that personage's daughter, whom he 'married', settling for a time in Madagascar. Eventually he swindled his associates and came to England with a vast booty, only himself to be stripped of everything by 'land pirates', and dying "not worth as much as would buy him a coffin."

OIL BEETLE FOUND in TARBERT

E.S.Clark

On 25th June 1985 Mr William McDougall found and subsequently identified a female Blueish Oil Beetle (Meloe violaceus) at the root of a leek plant in his garden at Tarbert, Loch Fyne. The beetle is now preserved in formalin in the Biology Department of Tarbert Academy.

Both the Common Oil Beetle (Meloe proscarabaeus) and the Blueish Oil Beetle are understood to be now comparatively rare, being found only quite locally in England and Wales and not normally in Scotland. The females of both beetles are black although the Blueish form has a slight violet tinge. They are wingless, with attenuated wing-cases which, unusually in beetles, overlap. The females, at approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ " (31mm) in length, are almost twice the size of the males.

Like the Blister Beetle or Spanish Fly (Lytta vesicatoria) which belongs to the same family - Meloidae, the Oil Beetle has a special chemical in its blood. To deter its enemies it exudes this evil-smelling irritant fluid from its joints - the 'oil' from which it gets its name.

The oil Beetle has a remarkable life history. The female lays thousands of tiny eggs in batches in cracks or holes in the ground. These hatch into long-legged little larvae (triungulins) which swarm over plants in hot weather. However in order to survive and develop into an adult a larva must attach itself to a certain species of wild bee (Anthophora pilipes) and be carried back to the bee's nest. There it enters a brood cell and devours the egg or grub. It then changes into a chafer-like grub, feeds on pollen and honey stored for the bee larva, and grows fast. It overwinters as a headless, legless maggot, then changes shape again (hypermetamorphosis) and finally pupates to emerge as a wingless adult in the spring sunshine. It is small wonder that only a very few of the many eggs laid complete this complicated life style.

There remains the mystery as to how this rare flightless beetle found its way to Tarbert. The most plausible link is the wholesale fruiterer whose van plies regularly between Glasgow Fruit Market and Tarbert. It was in fact he who supplied Mr McDougall with the packet of leek plants which is where our story began.

THE REMOVALS FROM THE OLD TOWN OF INVERARAY

Duncan Beaton

The town of Inveraray was transferred to its present situation about the middle of the 18th century, at the instance of Archibald, 3rd Duke of Argyll. The late Duncan Campbell Mactavish, in his little book Inveraray Papers, explored the Sheriff Court Papers relating to the town of the period, and the present article leans heavily on it.

The first steps were taken in 1746, when a Summons of Removal against a large number of inhabitants, including several of the prominent townspeople, was issued. Progress was slow; of the 126 originally summoned, 10 were still included in the list of removals due for Whitsunday 1758. The various lists are given at the end of this paper.

The original list included tenants from as far outwith the burgh as Killian and Stuckscardan. The exodus may have been slowing down by 25 March 1751 when 8 of the original number and another 8 tenants were warned to remove by Whitsunday next.

In 1753 there was a Precept of Warning directed against 6 new tenants and 6 from the original list, described as "pretended tennents and possessors of tenements in Inveraray". This was followed by a further Precept of Warning in 1755, and then by a "List of possessors of the houses afternamed on the East side of the Laigh Street of Inveraray to be removed at Whitsunday 1758 by order of the Duke of Argyll, directed at Dunardaray". A total of 22 tenancies were terminated at this time, including 10 from the original list.

Where did these people go? Some, of course, moved no further than the new tenements of Relief Land and Arkland. The more affluent built fine town houses in the Main Street, to the north of the New Town's Parish Church. Others went to the outlying farms of Glen Aray, Glen Shira and along Loch Fyne.

Looking down the lists of names sometimes brings a familiar one to the surface. James Buchanan, smith at Gar-ravan (gearr abhain - the short river) moved before 1748 to accommodate Roger Morris and William Adam's new bridge (recently bypassed by the modern Garren Bridge). In 1748 he was living further up Glen Shira and by 1756 he was at Braleckan, and later in life at the 'Smith's Acre', Shir-

druim, above presentday Minard. He was the writer's great-great-great-great-great grandfather.

It may surprise some that only 11 tenancies were held by members of the Campbell Clan. Indeed the surviving lists of Inveraray rentals through the ages reveal an overwhelming preponderance of surnames from lesser clans and septs in the burgh. Those Campbells listed in 1746 still provide some genealogical and social interest, however.

Mr Alexander Campbell, minister of the Parish, was a son of Alexander Campbell of Bragleen, a sept of Lochnell and descended from the 3rd Earl of Argyll. He had only recently (7 May 1745) transferred from the Gaelic or Glenarary Parish to the Burgh or English-speaking Inveraray Parish.

James Campbell, Writer, was the ancestor of the Campbells of Inverneill. He was a grandson of Charles Campbell (1650-1723) wadsetter of Tuerachan and Innishdaimh, near Killin, and son of Patrick Campbell in Tuerachan (1675-1753). James was born on Lochtayside in 1706, and came to Inveraray about 1734. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Provost James Fisher, and lived for a time at Dunderave. His inclusion on the list of removals for 1746 did not appear to harm his relations with the 3rd Duke, who appointed him Chamberlain of lands in Argyll, Bute and Inverness in 1756-7. He also received various tacks of lands in Cowal. He died in 1760, and the fortunes of his family continued to prosper through the patronage by the 5th Duke of his three surviving sons.

Margaret Campbell, widow of Robert Murray, was a natural daughter of Angus Campbell of Kilberry, who died in 1679. According to the genealogy of the Campbells of Auchenbreck, which included the Kilberrys, Margaret and Robert had 5 children - Angus, John, Dugald, Elizabeth and Sophia. The Murrays were a merchant family in Inveraray from the previous century, when Janet, daughter of Donald Murray, Provost of Inveraray, married George Campbell of Kinochtree. From this marriage descended the line of Otter (purchased in 1678) and Ormidale.

John Campbell, late Provost of the Burgh, was the father of James Campbell of Silvercraigs (1729-1810) who also became Provost. He is now better known as the builder of the "Paymaster's House" in the Main Street, and fathering three illustrious soldier-sons of the Napoleonic period.

The Macdougalls of Gallanach are his only known descendants today.

Moving on through the list, which includes common local names like Clark and Dewar, there is William Douglas(s), the mason responsible for carrying out many of the 3rd Duke's ideas. He built the Doocot and the Watch Tower, the latter for £46 stg. in 1748. When it was struck by lightning three years later he repaired it, the bill this time being a little over £7.

Alexander Duncanson, merchant, became "of Keills" and Provost of Inveraray about 1750. The merchant families of Duncanson and Brown were united when he married Martha (1692-1784) daughter of John Brown (1658-1727), both Provosts of Inveraray in their day. It is very likely that Alexander Duncanson of Keills was a grandson of another Alexander Duncanson, provost of the burgh in the 1690s.

There were several families of Fishers in the burgh, including Angus, a son of Provost Fisher and brother-in-law of James Campbell, writer. He had an interest in Auchindrain and Pennymore, and was sometimes styled "of Thornfield" after the former. He later lived at Pennymore.

Donald Kennedy, sometimes styled "Daniel" was a cordiner when he acted cautioner for James Buchanan at his marriage on 10 November 1740 at Garravan (or Garren, as the marriage register has it). Perhaps there was a connection between their spouses - Donald was married to Euphan McNicoll, and James Buchanan was marrying Mary McNicoll.

In 1746 Donald Kennedy was still a cordiner, but by 1752 he had taken up a new profession. On 11 May 1752 he was employed by James Campbell the Writer to carry a packet to Colin Campbell of Glenure at Fort William. This packet contained the eviction notices for the tenants of Ardshiel in Appin, and was delivered to Glenure by Donald on 13th May. The very next day Donald was one of the three men accompanying Glenure southwards through the Wood of Lettermore in Kentallen when a shot rang out. The infamous Appin Murder led to an innocent man being hanged for the murder of Glenure. It was immortalised by Robert Louis Stevenson in Kidnapped. Donald Kennedy, sheriff's messenger aged 48 years, was one of the witnesses for the prosecution at the trial of James Stewart in Inveraray.

Other common names included in the list summoned for removal in 1746 are McArthur, McCallum, McIntyre, McKay,

McKellar, McKenzie, McLachlan, McNaughton, McNab and McNicol. All or most of them are represented in the district today and their ancestors held various lands from early times. The McIllevoiles (Mac Gillemhaoil - Son of the Bald or Tonsured Man) are now Bells, and the McNocairds (Mac na Cearda - Son of the Tinkler or Smith) are now Sinclairs. The Bells were found at Sallachry in Glen Aray and the Sinclairs at Coulochan in Glen Shira. The McVicars, who held various baronies or farms from Brenachaille to Stronmagachan, and the Munros, who were their neighbours in Glen Aray, are spread across the world today, but there are still members of both clans in Argyll.

The McNuirs, McNuiers or McInuires, to give but a few versions, have all but disappeared from the area. In Cowal the name still continues as Macnair. The Donald McNuire and Alexander McInuair of the 1746 list were possibly of the same family. Alexander, at the Bridgend of Inveraray in 1746 may even have been the Alexander McNuier who was a fisherman in 1753. In 1779 there was an Alexander McNuir, an 80-year old retired servant (? at the Castle), living in Auchnagoul. His wife was 60-year old Margaret Crawford, and they had been married on 20 January 1741. Today one of their descendants lives in Victoria, Australia.

By 1799 the old town of Inveraray had been mostly demolished and the people dispersed. It may not have been as traumatic an event as the later Clearances, but for the people of Inveraray life would never be quite the same again.

A Summons of Removal was directed against the following inhabitants of Inveraray in 1746.

Black - James.

- Campbell - Mr Alexander, minister of the parish.
 " - Christian and Isobell.
 " - Donald, alias Gruinach (still there in 1751).
 " - Duncan.
 " - Isobell.
 " - James, writer.
 " - John, late Provost of the Burgh.
 " - Margaret, widow of Robert Murray, merchant.
 " - Patrick, surgeon.
 " - Robert, Yr. of Kintra.

Clark - Archibald, weaver in the Fisherland.
 " - Duncan, alias Poundan, in Finlay McNuir's house.
 " - Patrick, fisherman.
 Clerk - Mr, teacher at the English School at the Fisherland.
 " - John, in the Fisherland.
 " - John, Town Officer.
 Cossar - John.
 Deor - Mary, widow of John MacCallum.
 " - Neil.
 Douglass - William, mason.
 Duncanson - Alexander, merchant.
 Ffallowsdale - Mr John, usher at the Grammar School.
 Ffisher - Angus, merchant.
 " - John, changekeeper.
 Fisher - John, workman in Provost Fisher's tenement.
 Ffullerton - Alexander, Excise Officer.
 Gibson - David.
 Harper - James, cordiner.
 Hepburn - Margaret.
 Johnston - James, a smith.
 Kennedy - Donald, cordiner.
 " - John, tailor.
 Loggan - Dugall, changekeeper (still there in 1753).
 McAlister - James, a mason in Finlay McNuir's house.
 McArthur - Finlay, in Killian.
 " - Isobell.
 " - Patrick, innkeeper.
 McAulay - Marion, widow of Hugh McPhaill, tailor.
 McBraddan - Duncan, changekeeper (still there in 1753).
 " - Malcolm, in the Fisherland.
 " - Mary, daughter of Malcolm.
 " - Peter, in the Fisherland.
 McCallum - Duncan Roy.
 " - Neil, mason (still there in 1751).
 McCallman - Dugall.
 McCristal - Donald.
 McDugall - Allan.
 McEwen - Catharine.
 McGibbon - William, tide waiter.
 McIllevoile - John.
 McIlmaluag - Donald, boat carpenter in the Fisherland.
 McIntyre - Duncan.
 " - Donald.
 " - John, workman.

McKay - John.

" - Alexander, in Stuckscarden, Glen Shira.

" - Archibald, tailor (still there with son Dugald in 1758).

" - Archibald, waterman (still there in 1758).

" - Duncan Ban, at Creggans.

" - Malcolm Ban.

" - Malcolm, shoemaker in the Fisherland.

" - Robert, a fisherman in the Fisherland (still there in 1758).

McKenzie - Duncan, for the deceased John McPhunn's ten-
ments.

" - Jeremiah, in the Fisherland.

McKiachan - Dugall.

McLachlane - Allan.

" - Archibald, in Provost Fisher's tenement.

" - Donald (still there in 1758).

" - Lachlane.

McLawrine - Malcolm, butcher.

McLucass - Archibald, workman (still there in 1751).

McNab - John, surgeon.

McNaughtan - Ann.

" - Catharine.

" - Isobell.

McNeillage - Donald, a wright.

McNicol - Ann.

" - Donald, ferrier (ferryman).

" - John, shoemaker in the Fisherland.

" - Nicol, a shoemaker (still there in 1751).

" - Nicol, in Killian.

" - Patrick.

" - Patrick, a maltman.

McNocaird - Blind Archibald (still there in 1758).

" - John.

McNuire - Donald.

Macphail - Archibald, tailor.

McPhedron - Donald, at Garravan.

McRob - Archibald, a fisherman.

McVatty - Robert.

McVean - John.

McVicar - Alexander, son to Duncan (still there in 1758).

" - Archibald, workman in the Fisherland.

McVicar - Archibald, a tailor in Finlay McNuir's house.
 " - Archibald, cady.
 " - John, workman.
 " - Robert, weaver (still there in 1758).
 Munro - Donald.
 " - John, changekeeper in Finlay McNuir's house.
 Oswald - Henry.
 Oswald - James, in the Fisherland.
 Reid - John, maltman.
 Shearer - Alexander.
 Sinclair - Angus, a wright (still there in 1758).
 " - Archibald, boatman.
 " - Archibald (still there in 1751).
 " - Donald.
 " - Mary and Catharine.
 Smith - Angus, tailor.
 Stewart - Alexander.
 " - John, a cooper (still there in 1758).
 Stirling - Robert, wigmaker.
 Strachan - Anne.
 Strang - Andrew, quarrier.
 Thomson - William, a wright (still there in 1758).
 Turner - Archibald (still there in 1751).
 " - Janet.
 " - Niven, in Braleckan's tenement.
 Walker - Archibald, in the Fisherland.
 Wright - Catharine (still there in 1758).
 " - John.

On 25th March 1751 a Summons of
 Removal by Whitsunday against:-

Armour - Anne, widow of Robert Walker.
 Campbell - Alexander & Colin, changekeepers.
 " - John, late herd.
 McGoshan - Euphame, changekeeper.
 McIlvoile - John, in Larichinluig (summoned in 1746).
 Sinclair - Patrick, in Larichinluig.
 Sutherland - Alexander, changekeeper.
 Walker - John, in Bennan.

Plus eight others summoned in 1746.

In 1753:-

Gillies - Robert, waterman.

Higgins - Andrew, a wright.
McArthur - Gilbert, a sawyer.
McKiachan - Archibald, workman.
McNuier - Alexander, fisherman.
Turner - Duncan & John, fishermen (still there in 1758).
Plus six others summoned in 1746.

"List of Possessors of the houses on the East
side of the Laigh Street of Inveraray to be
removed at Whitsunday 1758"

Clerk - Margaret, widow of Niven Turner.
McArthur - Alexander, and Catharine Wright, sempstress,
both indwellers.
McDugall - John, wigmaker.
McIlchattan - Jannet, widow of William McNuyer, workman.
McIlv oyle - Finlay, workman.
McIntyre - Duncan, from Cruites House (summoned in 1746).
McKellar - Dugald, a merchant, son of Archibald the
tailor (summoned in 1746).
McLachlan - Miss Mally, mercatrix (i.e. merchant)
McMartin - Donald, a weaver.
McVrion - Archibald, tailor.
Murray - Robert, in the New Town.
Young - James, wright & Elizabeth Campbell, widow of
Duncan Ore McVicar.
Plus ten others summoned in 1746.

(CONTINUED from PAGE 10)

Erected by ARCHD McGILP in memory of his father NEIL
McGILP farmer in BARNLOCHAN who died 21 March 1841 aged
70 years.

Erected to the memory of NORMAN McLEOD son to JOHN McLEOD
in BARBRECK who died March 2nd 1795 aged 17 years.

Here lyes the corps of DUNCAN McILPHEDRICH tenant in
DANNE who died May 1753 aged 48 years.

CONCLUDED

THE CRINAN CANAL AGAIN

Mrs Stout, of Tarbert, has very kindly given us the text of an old notice-board which she happened to see in the Waterways Museum, Stoke Bruerne, Northamptonshire - a far cry from its original location.

CRINAN CANAL
NOTICE

CHILDREN AND OTHERS ARE HEREBY PROHIBITED FROM RUNNING ALONG THE CANAL BANKS AFTER THE PASSENGER STEAMER; AND PASSENGERS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO ENCOURAGE THEM BY THROWING MONEY ON TO THE BANK. CHILDREN ARE FURTHER WARNED NOT TO THROW FLOWERS INTO THE BOAT.

THE SALE OF MILK ON THE PROPERTY OF THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS ONLY PERMITTED ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT NO ANNOYANCE IS CAUSED TO PASSENGERS. ANY PERSON WHO BY URGING THE PURCHASE OR OTHERWISE INCONVENIENCES OR ANNOYS ANY PASSENGER WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM SELLING, AND, IF NECESSARY, DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO LAW. PASSENGERS ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT ANY SUCH CASE TO THE PURSER, AND ALSO TO POINT OUT THE DELINQUENT TO THE NEAREST LOCK KEEPER OR CANAL OFFICIAL.

CRINAN CANAL OFFICE
ARDRISHAIG. 30th JUNE, 1887.

L. JOHN GROVES
SUPERINTENDENT

Regarding the sale of milk en route (see Kist 27) it may be added that at one period a captive cow, beside a table or counter, provided milk 'on draught' to passengers! It seems that the potentialities of a daily-renewed succession of customers were by no means overlooked by the 'locals'. Knitted items, fresh milk, bunches of heather, pipe music, soliciting youngsters - all figure at one time or another in the story of the Canal.

Although passengers seem not to have shown any great resistance to this exploitation in the quotations we have given in earlier Kists (Nos. 21, 22, 23 & 27) the present contribution indicates that things had got out of hand by 1887, but it is doubtful if the notice had any effect.

THE TARBERT SHIP CANAL

Ian Y. Macintyre

History tells us that ships were often dragged across the narrow neck of land which joins Kintyre to the mainland of Scotland even before that famous traverse by Magnus Barefoot in 1093. To claim 'Cantyre' for his own under a treaty with the Scottish king "he drag a cutter over Cantyre neck with rudder shipped and himself sat on the poop holding the tiller, and thus got he to him so much land as lay to larboard."

Bruce also used this stratagem to surprise the Lord of the Isles in 1315 when he set out to restore order in this region; a track of logs (a primitive ship railway) was constructed across the isthmus, and with sails set to take advantage of a favourable wind, his men dragged the ships from east to west. So it is only to be expected that in later years efforts would be made to facilitate the transfer of ships across the narrow strip of land.

The building of a canal to cut the isthmus was under consideration before Ferdinand de Lesseps had heard of Suez, and a century before the Corinth and Panama Canals were built.

In 1771 the engineer James Watt was consulted on the comparative advantages of Crinan and Tarbert regarding the building of a canal which would save the long and often hazardous journey round the Mull of Kintyre. He calculated that a passageway from Ardrishaig to Crinan would take 75 miles off the journey from the Clyde ports to the Western Isles, whilst a route located at Tarbert was claimed to save only 55 miles. His estimate of the cost of a canal from Ardrishaig to Crinan was £48,405, compared with £23,884 for a Tarbert canal.

The outcome of Watt's investigation was a report in favour of the Crinan canal. Certain problems attended the siting of a canal at Tarbert. The main one appears to have been the difficulty of sailing ships having to pass in the narrow channel of West Loch Tarbert. The building of the Crinan canal commenced in 1793.

By 1804 the work was unfinished and a deficit of £140,000 had accrued. Even after completion further problems arose, necessitating extensive repairs. It may have been partly due to these difficulties that a canal at Tarbert should again receive consideration.

On 7th August 1846 an Act of Parliament received the Royal Assent. A Joint Stock Company - The Tarbert Ship Canal Co. - was to make a Maritime Canal between Loch Fyne and West Loch Tarbert.

The limitations of the Crinan Canal had become apparent; its narrowness and depth, with the large number and smallness of its locks, prevented its use by the larger coastal steamers. At the same time the arrival of these new steam vessels removed the earlier obstacles to a Tarbert canal.

Plans were drawn up by Thomas Kyle of Glasgow in 1845. The canal was to be 56 feet wide with a minimum depth of 18 feet at low water. These plans included improvements to the East Harbour and deepening of the channel at the head of the West Loch; also the building of two lighthouses. The total cost was estimated by Alex. Gibb, Engineer of Aberdeen in June 1846 at £147,950. The capital of the Company was set at £150,000, and the shares were oversubscribed by four times.

Despite this apparent show of confidence the plans were not carried out, largely due to a monetary crisis early in 1847. Negotiations commenced between the Company and the Government, resulting in an agreement whereby the Directors would abandon their Act on the understanding that the Government would undertake to build the canal.

Captain (later Admiral) Sir Edward Belcher reported to the Admiralty "There is no objection to the navigation of, or approaches to, those Lochs Tarbert, but what may be either avoided, or removed at trifling expense. As to the comparative advantages between the Crinan Canal and that proposed as the Argyll Canal (at Tarbert), I have not the slightest hesitation in declaring that the Argyll Canal is not only the most important in a merchantile view, that it promises to secure immediate repayments, but that it is highly important to the national sea defence of Western Scotland and Ireland."

A Bill authorising the transfer of the undertaking to Government was introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer late in the 1847 Session. Obstacles were raised to its passing and the scheme fell through. The Tarbert Ship Canal Co. was dissolved in 1849. The feeling still remained that there was a need for a canal at Tarbert.

In 1882 it was proposed to set up the Argyll Canal Co. with a share capital of £200,000 and apply to Parliament

during 1883 for authority to proceed with construction. It was now intended that it should be 75 feet wide with a 10 foot path along one side, and to be not less than 20 ft deep. Only one lock would be required (to restrict tidal currents) as the new waterway would be cut through the isthmus to sea-level along its length of 1,630 yards, the highest point being only 47 feet above sea-level. The estimated cost had risen to £180,000. The provisional committee consisted of the Duke of Argyll (Chairman), Lord Colin Campbell, M.P., Sir Wm. Collins (Glasgow), Charles Cameron, Dugald Campbell (Greenock), John Ramsay (Kildalton), Farquar Campbell (Oronsay), John Campbell (Stonefield), James Campbell (Tillean), J.H. Dickson, Archd. Dunlop, Kirkman Finlay, John Graham, James M. Hall, J.L. Mackay, Capt. Scarlet of Gigha, John Ball (Sheriff), Bankers of the Royal Bank of Scotland and Union Bank of Scotland.

At a meeting of interested parties held in Glasgow the Chairman detailed the advantages to be gained by the formation of a new and larger canal at Tarbert. The trading vessels, too large for the Crinan Canal, which sailed from the Clyde to ports in N.W. Scotland and farther to Baltic and N. German ports, would be able to use the proposed canal. This would save about 80 miles of sea journey round the Mull with a corresponding saving in time. There would be no delay in traversing the isthmus with only one lock to pass, compared with the 15 locks of the Crinan Canal. It was envisaged that carriage rates would be materially reduced as a result of these savings. Currently the rates charged on bags of meal from the Clyde to Skye and Stornoway, were almost as high as the cost of shipping these same bags between America and the Clyde. The carriage costs on most other kinds of goods to these areas were also considered to be unreasonably high.

Investigations into the viability of the canal suggested that some twenty of the boats regularly sailing from the Clyde to ports on the west and north coasts of Scotland would be likely to use it. These boats were:- Aros Castle, Chevalier, Clansman, Claymore, Clydesdale, Columba, Dunara, Castle, Fingal, Glencoe, Lochnell, Hebridean, Inveraray Castle, Iona, Islay, Lady Ambrosine, Lochell, Mountaineer, Pioneer, Staffa and Loch Etive. Estimates provided for the Company suggested that the dues from these steamships over a one-year period would amount to £8,000, and a further

£4,000 of income could be provided by sailing vessels and other canal users.

As the waterway required only one lock, costs of maintenance would be minimal and were assessed at £1,000, with the prospect of handsome profits of over £10,000 p.a.

Before issuing the Prospectus the Committee had subscribed over £38,000 and a further £3,000 was assured from other sources. Once more, despite this obvious show of financial support, Parliament having passed the necessary Bill, the comparative simplicity of construction and favourable forecast on operational finances, the Tarbert Ship Canal failed to materialise - again due to financial problems, especially the City of Glasgow Bank collapse in 1878.

In 1906 a proposal was made to a Royal Commission on Canals and Waterways, to enlarge the Crinan Canal to Ship Canal standard. A counter-proposal was made that the Commission should reconsider the construction of a canal at Tarbert. Mr Benjamin Hall-Blyth of Edinburgh, who had surveyed the project in 1882, now estimated the cost to be £301,000. Mr L. John Groves (Engineer of the Crinan Canal) disputed the estimate and claimed that the costs of building and running a ship canal would be similar in both locations, but that Crinan would command more traffic than Tarbert, and be of greater advantage to the Highlands.

In the event the Royal Commission decided that the capital outlay for a ship canal either at Crinan or Tarbert would not be justified.

Grateful acknowledgment is made of the invaluable research facilities provided by the Oban Times management.

KIST 30 - ERRATUM and ADDENDA

Dr Lorne Campbell, the President and the Editor

Page 13: Dun Alasdair. A query from Dr Campbell uncovers a mistake in this paper. The reference to the 'retired butler' occurs in 1892, not in 1855. Further information from Dr Campbell concerns the McIlriach* family "...from the Taynuilt area Colin McIlriach, schoolmaster at Kirkton of Muckairn, married Janet McCallum and had ten

* McGillirioch in 17th c. Presbytery Records of Lorne.

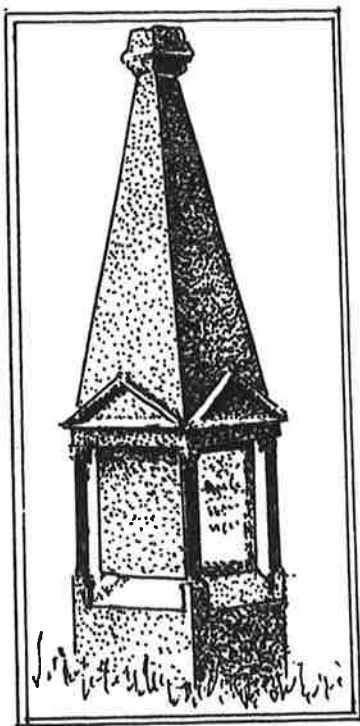
children baptised between 1773 and 1796. One son, Donald, succeeded his father at Muckairn and died in 1868. His widow, Anne Lamont, died at Bunaw Cottage, Tarbert on 19th January 1880, in her 79th year." Their eldest son was the 'retired butler' who had been employed at Stonefield, near Tarbert. Further details come from Mr & Mrs I.Y. Macintyre, showing that he was in London and Glasgow after leaving Stonefield, in Torrisdale Cottage, Tarbert, from 1897 until 1904, and in Bunaw Cottage from 1905 until his death in Dec. 1912. His gravestone in Tarbert cemetery "erected by his sisters" shows that he was born at Taynult in 1832. A second memorial is on the Tarbert Church bell ".... purchased by subscription collected by Mr Duncan McIlriach 1886". As to his connection with Dun Alasdair, it now seems probable that he lived there, if at all, for only a short time. By 1888, (a year before the date on the house) he was in London, and came to Torrisdale Cottage from Glasgow in 1897. An Alex. McSporran is recorded, as owner more probably than as tenant, in 1892. Between that date and the Editor's arrival in 1957 there were eight successive owners.

Page 16: Gravestone at Kilmory. Here again Dr Campbell gives information. The Duncan Campbell to whose memory it was erected was the younger son of Donald (married to a McPhee in Bute), son of Alexander, natural son of Patrick Dubh of Stuck (married an Alexander), younger son of Donald of Kilmory (whose Will is dated 1593), younger son of Archibald, 3rd of Auchinbreck, who died in 1565.

Page 20: The Killeevin Stone. Our President suggests that the three items of carving may indicate, in ascending order, Death, Burial and Resurrection, the concentric circles representing an early type of burial ground. This seems a very probable interpretation.

As for our own mature thoughts on the stone, account should have been taken of the fact that the mortice tapers from either side towards the centre, making impracticable the use of a single stone as arms for the cross, but no obstacle if two stones were employed, wedged in from either side to form arms. The limitations imposed by the tapering mortice had escaped us until a later inspection was made.

...oooOooo...



A SEPULCHRAL ODDITY in ISLAY

Islay is noted for many outstanding objects of interest, amongst which used, if not now, to be counted the extraordinary erection in Keills graveyard - an elaborate and imposing monument constructed of zinc. Only on a close approach was the seemingly stone obelisk revealed as being of metal. One meets not infrequently with cast-iron headstones (a welcome sight to the recorder of epitaphs) but it is not easy to indicate one made of zinc. When first observed, in 1980, it was held together with rope, but on a second visit a year or two later it was collapsing, and the disintegration is probably now complete. The lettering, behind glass and succumbing to infiltration of moisture, had long been defective.

REVIEW: BRAINPORT.

The results of ten years of exploration, observation and excavation appear in Col. Peter Fane Gladwin's report on The Solar Alignment at Brainport Bay, Minard, Argyll, published under the imprint of our Society in 1985. There can be no doubt that this is a most welcome publication in which both author and Society can take satisfaction. It should save a good deal of verbal explanation.

The extent of prehistoric man's knowledge of astronomy has been the cause of considerable argument over the past few years, but the evidence for solar observation is now such that it cannot be denied. Most people, expert or lay, find it easy to accept that midsummer and midwinter must have represented important stages in the yearly cycle of non-industrial societies with only limited means of

storing food from one season to the next. What are far less easy to accept are the observations of the stars and of the phases of the moon which have been claimed for pre-historic man. These would have required far more sophisticated calculations over longer periods and under more demanding conditions than solar observations, and whether the competence or means for such calculations existed at such an early date may be doubted. Moreover, their practical relevance for the societies of the time is not obvious.

On the other hand, the connexions between midsummer and the yields of the soil, and possibly observations of spring and autumn with seed-time and harvest, seem acceptable enough. Col. Fane Gladwin's approach to the question is eminently reasonable. He points out that Brainport Bay is so placed in relation to the eastern and north-eastern skylines that the yearly advance and return of the sunrise position along the horizon could hardly fail to be noticed by anyone living there. He suggests that in course of time this general knowledge would have been refined by the use and adaptation of landscape features for the more accurate observation and calculation of midsummer.

The most obvious of these features was a large outcrop of rock which he calls the Forward Outcrop. Up to and against the south-west side of this had been constructed two round stone terraces, the smaller set upon and inside the other, each reveted with a kerb of boulders. These structures could not be understood until the discovery of a stone platform of boulders and slabs - the Back Platform - some 75m to the south-south-west. The prolongation of the axis between platform and terraces indicates a V-shaped hollow, 27 miles away, between Ben Dubhcraig and Ben Oss, across Loch Fyne. On the landward side the alignment seems to have terminated in an earthen bank, beneath which, on the old ground surface, was recovered charcoal giving a radiocarbon date of 1160 ± 80 bc (GU 1704/84).

The possible alignment was tested on 21 June 1977, and was confirmed in spectacular fashion. Thereafter Col. Fane Gladwin's efforts have been directed to more detailed examination of the sites. His excavations have proved that they are not dwelling places. He believes that he has found the sockets for two small standing stones, one in the Forward Outcrop, the other at the edge of the smaller

terrace just to the southwest of the Forward Outcrop. These standing stones have now been erected in the sockets: the calculated axis for midsummer observation passes neatly between them. It is possible that other features of the sites were used to observe the winter solstice sunrise.

Finds of flint and quartz implements, and the presence of cup-marked stones, confirm the generally prehistoric nature of the sites. Scatters of quartz suggest ritual use. There is some evidence to suggest activity as late as early Christian times.

Col. Fane Gladwin presents his evidence clearly, with informative diagrams and photographs. A few typographical errors have crept into the text, while on p.5 a "W" has displaced an "E" in the first paragraph describing the Back Platform and Projection. Some other points may be noted. The scale is not obvious in Fig.II. When giving radiocarbon dates the convention now is to use "bc" or "ad" to indicate such dates, reserving "BC" or "AD" for the calendar dates to which the radiocarbon dates have to be matched. It would appear that the author intends to quote the radiocarbon dates in all cases.

One cannot but be impressed by Col.Fane Gladwin's persistence in exploring this interesting series of sites and by his ingenuity in explaining what he has found. One might differ with him on points of detail, and not everyone will accept without reserve that the two standing stones either were originally such or have been replaced in their original positions if such. Nevertheless, his general thesis is hard to refute, and it does appear that an important solar alignment, to be dated perhaps to 1160 bc, has been confirmed at Brainport. A plate on the cover shows the dramatic view, on the morning of the solstice, when "the rising sun makes a brilliant orange 'path' over the water between Brainport and Pennymore Point, a distance of $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles". Surely one must believe one's eyes!

Jack G. Scott.

The SOLAR ALIGNMENT at BRAINPORT BAY, MINARD, ARGYLL
P. Fane Gladwin, OBE, FSAScot. £2 (postage extra) from
Publications Secretary (see Index page).