

SM7/L'DERRY 25:4

DUNGHVEN: Standing stone

DUNGIVEN
CS25;IG51

Standing Stone & Mound

300'+

Situated on high ground which falls sharply away to the SW. There are panoramic views all around, especially over the Roe valley.

The stone is situated on a mound and is located to the S of and beside St. Patrick's Church. The mound measures 14.80m N-S and 18m E-W and stands 1.20m above the exterior at the N. It has been quite badly eroded by sheep, and there are two large depression on the mound at the SSE-S-W. The largest one measures c.2.5m in diameter and 0.30m in depth. A small flint implement was found in one of these depressions. The mound is mainly composed of sandy soil, though a few large stones were noted on the mound side at the E which appear to be embedded.

The stone is a tall thin slab. It stands 2.05m in height, 1.13m in breadth at the WSW and 0.26m in greatest width. Erosion at the base of the stone has revealed packing stones, particularly at the E side.

Tradition states that this stone was set up as a record of an ecclesiastical assembly held here in 590 A.D., at which Columbkille was present.

O.S Memoir - '... the pillar was removed and the tumulus explored

McL May Archive

L'Derry 25:4

August 1995

N. Cunningham

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Historic Monuments and Buildings Branch DOENI

SMR LDY 25:4	Td DUNGWEN	Type Standing Stone	
A No.	Site Name	Parish Dungwen	Alt
IG	GR	Barony	DC limavady
OS			
NB			
Condition	Threat	Check/Action	Schedule
Land use		Field boundaries	
Site description		Photos?	

OS. memoirs

Near the old church of *Dungiver stands the barrow or sepulchral pillar, an engraving of which is given in the County Survey: the pillar was removed and the tumulus explored some years ^p34 since but nothing discovered in consequence. There are several cars over this district, and every one of them is, in the opinion of the neighbourhood, the resting place of some chieftain, or giant, as they mostly call him. On the top of *Mullagash (*Banagher) is a rude heap of stones, the tomb of a chieftain named %Magennis who, say the mountaineers, fell in some "disasterous battle" but they cannot fix the period or assign the reason of his being buried in so singular a situation.

F5 Standing Stone near the old Church

TEXT

The standing stone on the barrow near the old church is 5 foot 1 inch high and 11 inches thick by 3 foot broad. The barrow is a dilapidated square 40 feet broad and rises 6 feet above the level of the adjoining field of which it is the summit. Much of the material appears to be soft clay, which is evinced by the occurrence of rabbit holes, see drawing no2. 25:4

OVER

Visited by	Date of visit	SM.2	Input
------------	---------------	------	-------

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Historic Monuments and Buildings Branch DOENI

SMR 23:4	Td DUNGIEN	Type Standing stone	
A No.	Site Name	Parish	Alt
IG	GR	Barony	DC
OS			

NB

Mound
Quite badly eroded with animals & ? Metal detectors
as there are a few small rect. holes. Flint scraper
found.
Sandy soil revealed.

Condition fair - good	Threat Erosion & Metal detecting	Check/Action	Schedule Yes
Land use Improved grassland	Field boundaries Sheep wire & hedges in vicinity		
Site description	Photos?		

Situated on high ground, the ground falls sharply
away to the SW. There are panoramic views all around
overlooks Roe valley.

Truly spectacular position for long term views

Tumulus still survives as does stone

However there are two large depressions

in the mound at the SSE-S-W presumably

Made by sheep. - 0.30m depth of one at SSE largest

Mound E-W = 18m 14.80m NE-S.

Stones 1-20m above surface at N.

At E two quite large stones noted lying inside of
mound & partly covered by earth.

OVER

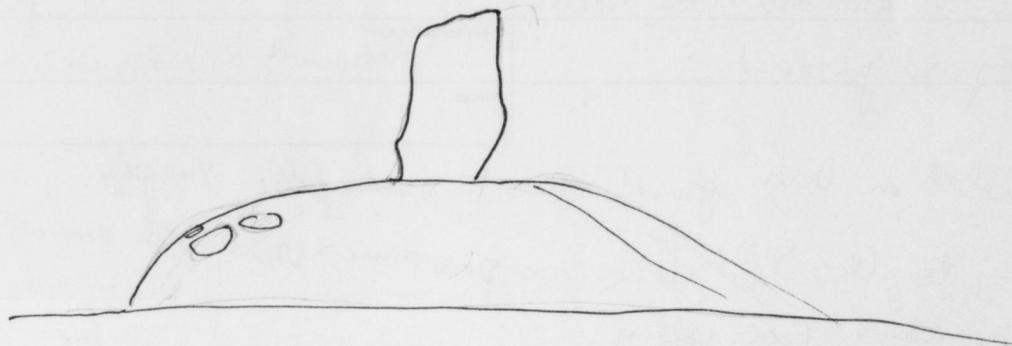
Visited by N. Cunningham	Date of visit 29-8-95	SM.2	Input
-----------------------------	--------------------------	------	-------

Base of standing stone notable as erosion
has revealed packing stones, esp. numerous at
E side.

Ht of stone 2.05m

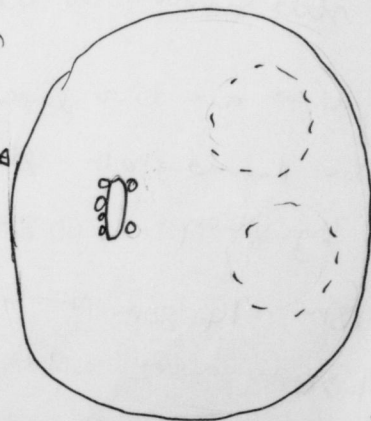
Broadest point 1.13 m at WSW

This is a slab stone with very thin cross-section
c. 0.26 m in greatest width.



GRAVEYARD -

May have been
truncated slightly here



Bird's eye view
of monument

LDY 2514

2514

McL May Archive

O.S.S. 25.

Standing Stone, Dungiven. Parish of Dungiven.

This standing stone is situated to the South of and close beside St. Patrick's Church. It is about 6' high, 4' broad and 1 foot thick. It stands on an earthen mound about 30 feet in diameter on top of a hill and is of the local schist rock. It is close to the old Priory q.v. No.

Tradition states that this stone was set up



as a record of an ecclesiastical assembly held here in 590 A.D., at which St. Columbkille was present. This stone was used at the festival of Beltaine, (May Eve) up to the 19th century. A Turus, started at St. Patrick's well, the procession marching round in a clockwise direction. See St. Patrick's Well p.p. The processionists then went to a stone in the river bed, and next to the old Priory and finishing up at this stone.

Standing Stone at Dingiven (2).

a stone in the river bed, and next to the old Priory and
finishing up at this stone.

STRANMILLIS
COLLEGE
BELFAST BT9 5DY
TEL. BELFAST 665271

as from:

177 Sicily Park,
Fingary.

SM7/L. 2027 31:

Replied
15.3.79.



20th Feb '79.

Dear Dr. Hamlin,

Thank you for the P.R.C.N.G. hand-
outs which you so kindly sent me.

I hope to direct my second year students and
an in-service group to Balmoral Avenue when
the former come back to College from teaching
practice. Some of your guide cards should help
them - their pursuit of the Normans - Ireland!
Anything that promotes more effective and
relevant class room teaching is to be encouraged.

You may remember I bought the guide to
Dungiven for my - the Standing Stone nearby
is on my brother's land and Buchanans have
been buried - that old graveyard till great.
Aunt Eliza. I was looking at Simpson's
Memoirs of the Chart and Statistical Survey

of Londonderry and find ^{the stone} ~~it~~ described
as a Sepulchral pile as that may well be but
does any one know. I was brought up with
the legend that Columbus preached there - I
suppose when he sailed up the Roe for the
Convention of Drumcree.

My brother is worried about the projected
by-pass and I deplore these bungalows
at the end of the "old church" lane. I wrote
to a planning official: Sorry but got
no where - likewise the Canon, alas.

Yours sincerely,

Betty Howard.