

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL



FIELD MONUMENTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

4 DISTRICT SKYE & LOCHALSH		5 PARISH KINTAIL		1 SITE CODE H N G 9 2 S W 0 0 2		2 NGR N G 9 3 9 9 2 0 8 5		3 QUAL CE	
7 AREA STATUS		8 SITE STATUS STANDING STRUCTURE		9 REGIONAL STATUS		10 GENERIC TYPE BURIAL (VIKING GRAVE?)			
11 CONCORDANCE OS NG 92 SW 2		12 FORM		13 DIMENSIONS		14 PERIOD/DATE LM (NOR)		15 DATING METHOD TYP	
16 RELATIONSHIP OF ELEMENTS		17 CONDITION INCOMPLETE		18 SHAPE		19 THREAT AND DATE			
20 LAND USE ENCLOSED PASTURE = ROUGH PASTURE				21 GEOLOGY					
22 SOILS				23 VEGETATION					
24 HYDROLOGY/DRAINAGE		25 RELIEF VALLEY FLOOR		26 ASPECT SW		27 ALTITUDE 0 = 8m OD			
28 EXCAVATION (EXCAVATOR: DATE: EXTENT: QUALITY)									
29 BIBLIOGRAPHY (AUTHOR: DATE: TITLE: JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER: VOLUME: DETAIL)									
1. ORDNANCE SURVEY: 1904: 6" MAP 2. BOGLE, L: 1895: PROC. SOC. ANT. SCOT: 29: p189 + plan 3. MACROW, B: 1948: KINTAIL SCRAPBOOK: : : p47 4. MacCULLOCH, G: 1911: : THE RELIGION OF THE ANCIENT CELTS: : p150									
30 GROUND PLAN NO.					31 GROUND PHOTO NO.				
32 SLIDES NO.					33 HR. AP. NO.				
34 NMR. AP. NO.					35 OTHER AP. NO.: SOURCE				
36 ARCHIVE AND LOCATION									
37 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY					38 SAMPLES				
39 PALYNOLOGY					40 NUMERICAL DATES: RANGE: LAB NO.				
41 SMALL FINDS								42 MUSEUM/LOCATION	
43 OTHER									
44 NAME & ADDRESS OF OWNER								45 ATTITUDE OF OWNER	
46 NAME & ADDRESS OF TENANT								47 ATTITUDE OF TENANT	
48 ACCESS & RESTRICTIONS									
49 NAME & ADDRESS OF FINDER/RECORDER: DATE						50 RECORDER: DATE MC: 24.10.1985		51 CHECK: DATE Mto: 8.11.1985	
52 TEXT									

"See continuation card for text and plan."

6. * "Otherwise known as 'Uaigh Diarmaid'."

By far the most passionate and tragic story of the saga is that of Diarmaid and Grainne, to whom Fionn was betrothed. Grainne put *geasa* upon Diarmaid to elope with her, and these he could not break. They fled, and for many days were pursued by Fionn, who at last overtook them, but was forced by the Fians to pardon the beloved hero. Meanwhile Fionn waited for his revenge. Knowing that it was one of Diarmaid's *geasa* never to hunt a wild boar, he invited him to the chase of the boar of Gulban. Diarmaid slew it, and Fionn then bade him measure its length with his foot. A bristle pierced his heel, and he fell down in agony, beseeching Fionn to bring him water in his hand, for if he did this he would heal him. In spite of repeated appeals, Fionn, after bringing the water, let it drip from his hands. Diarmaid's brave soul passed away, and on Fionn's character this dire blot was fixed for ever.

(4)

The word *Diarmaid*, associated with the *Dunan* or little *Dun*, also occurs in *Uaigh Diarmaid*, or Diarmaid's grave (fig. 12), which lies in a field close by. Twenty large rough stones, of an average length of 2 feet each, extend to the length of 27 feet in a double parallel row, while the measurement across from the outer edge of the stones is 8 feet. Five of the stones have been removed or have sunk out of sight. The remaining fifteen are embedded on a level with the grass, which might argue for a great antiquity. The tradition of the natives affirms that Diarmaid and his wife are both buried here,—the Diarmaid being the hero celebrated in the Fingalian ballads.

(2)

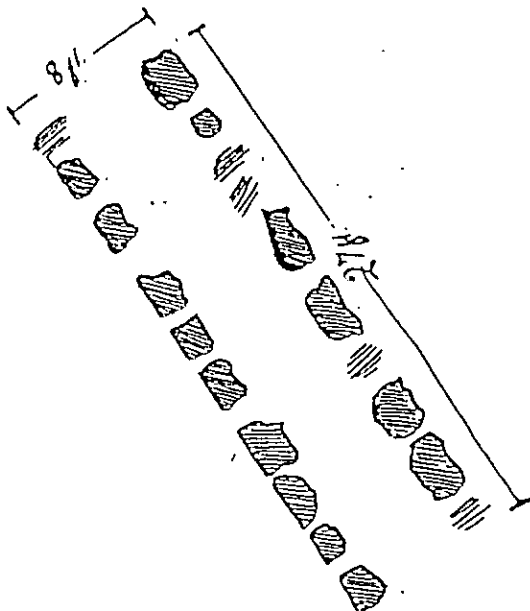


Fig. 12. Diarmaid's Grave.

(NG 9399 2085) Diarmaid's Tomb

(1)

'Uaigh Diarmaid' or 'Diarmaid's Grave' - formerly 20 stones forming two parallel rows 27' long and 8' broad overall. Five of the stones have been removed, or have sunk out of site. The remaining 15 average 2' in length and lie flush with the surface of the ground. (2)

The site was excavated but nothing was found except one clay pot. It was later thought the excavations were not deep enough. (a)

(Info: Dr. F. Macrae, Ratagan)

Tradition says that Diarmid, Fingal's nephew, and Grainne, Fingal's wife, are buried here. (3)

Generally as described by Bogle. Only 13 of the stones, either level with, or protruding from, the turf, can be seen. Possibly a Viking grave.

'Diarmid' is the locally accepted spelling of this name.

(OSFI:RL:22.9.1966)

'Diarmid's Grave': a setting of stones, up and down a slight W-facing slope.

This is similar to the alleged Viking graves on the Isle of Canna. (See HNG 20 NW 001).

(OSFI:AA:13.6.1974)