

SM 7 | ARM 30:17

DRUMBOY

Rath and ~~POSSIBLE~~
SOUTHWAIN

ARM 30:17

DRUMBOY: RATH AND POSSIBLE SOUTERRAIN
Drumboy Fort

Rath and possible souterrain 400 ft + OD
'Drumboy Fort'

CS 30, IG 280

(P?) BDC/S

H 905 446
H 9029 1160

On the top of a drumlin with very extensive views all around but especially across the valley of the Fane River into Monaghan. Although the site has been scarred as a result of the current troubles it remains quite an impressive monument. The central enclosure is oval and measures 29^m ($95ft$) NW-SE by 26.5^m ($87ft$) NE-SW. The interior has a slightly domed profile and a depression in the NE quadrant may ^{indicate} be the remains of a collapsed souterrain. Bonfires have apparently been lit on the site of this hollow and subsequent erosion may have caused the present appearance, but it is perhaps more likely that the heat cracked the lintels and hastened the collapse. // ^{New Pan (evident 35p)} The central platform is enclosed on the SE and NW by a prominent bank, about 1^m ($3ft$ ~~3ins~~) high above the interior, while around the SW half of the perimeter there is a steep scarp falling almost 2.5^m ($8ft$) to the base of a ditch. ^{There} a counterscarp bank ~~there~~ rises about 1.2^m ($4ft$) and stands $1-1.4^m$ ($3ft$ ~~3ins-4ft 6ins~~) above the external ground level. This

ARM 30:17 has been distorted on the SW by a pathway worn down by cattle. The NE half of the site is also defined by a steep scarp but there is no evidence for a ditch, simply a berm, about 5[#] (~~4ft 6ins~~) wide, before a second scarp preserved below a hedge boundary and falling about 1[#] (~~3ft 3ins~~). There is no obvious entrance but the inner bank is interrupted at the NW and SE where it is crossed by a modern field bank. *The gap below*

at the SE side has been altered slightly to form an army observation post but this may mark the site of the original entrance.

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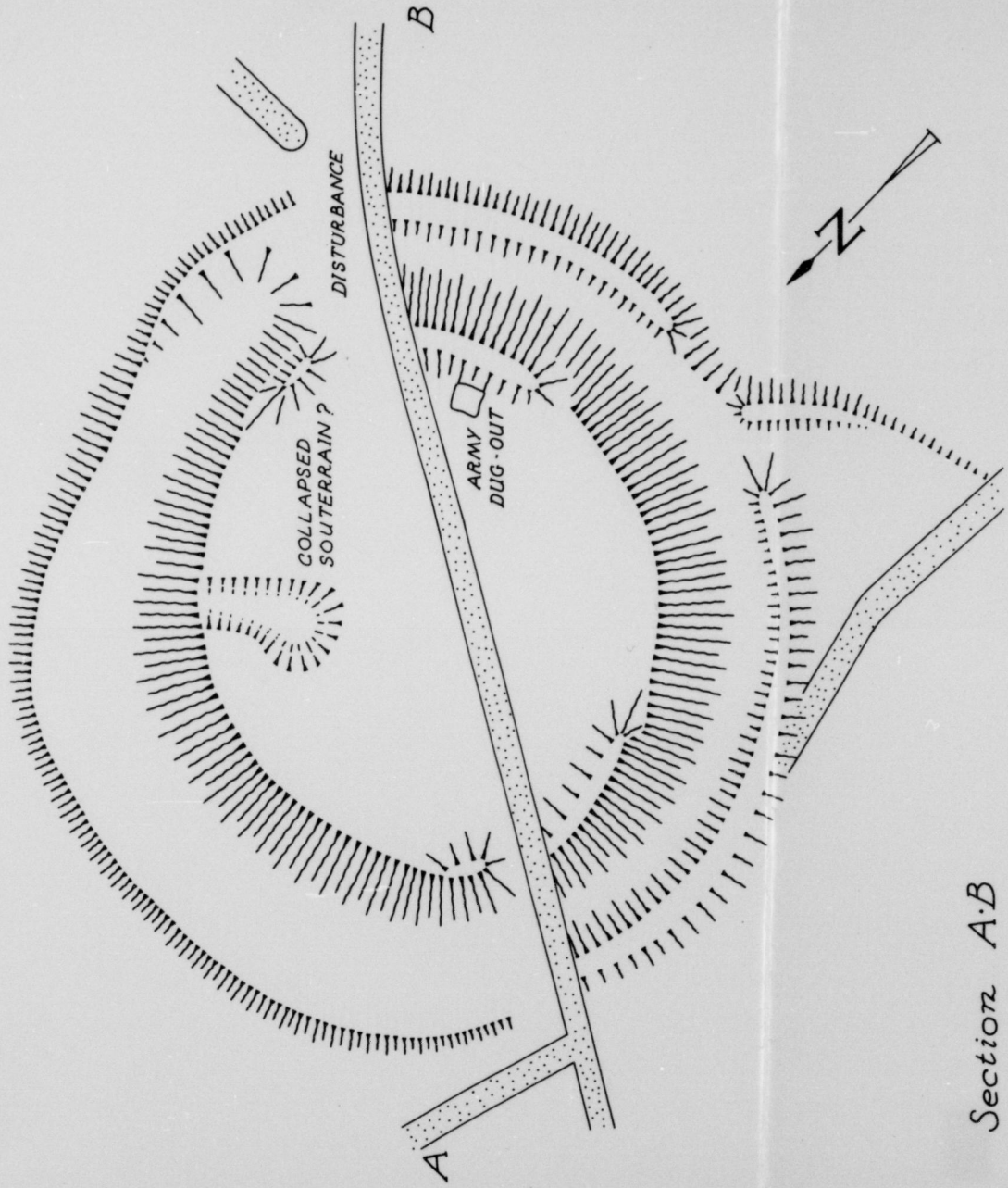
Fig 1

~~3 9 83~~
September 1983

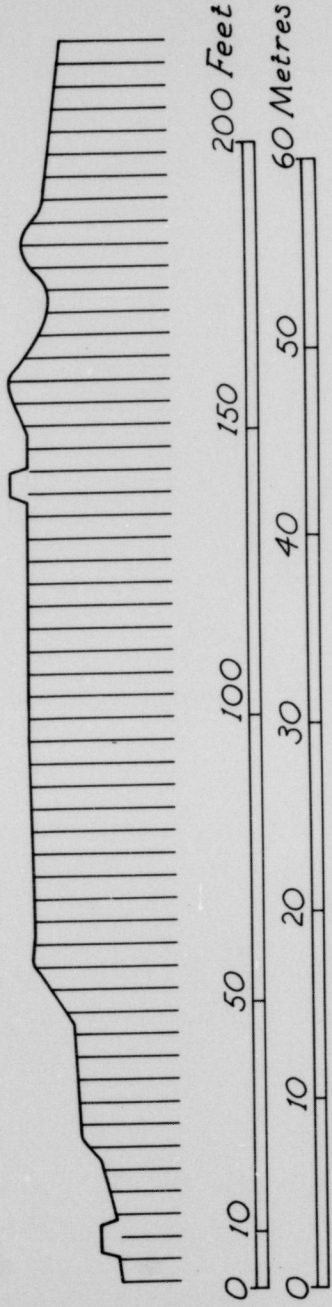
This monument is regularly used by the army as an observation post and the interior and banks have been disturbed in several places.

OS 1 'Fort' 3 'Drumboy Fort'
2 'Drumboy Fort' 4 'Fort'

ARM 30:17/3
DRUM BOY
Scale 1:200
1 May '33



Section A·B



M. Mc L '83

ARM 30:17/3

MAP SHEET 30
No. 17
GRID REF. H 903116

ARMAGH
RATH

DRUMBOY
HT. 450' O.D.

SITE: On a drumlin top with very extensive views on all sides.

TYPE: Bank, ditch and counterscarp bank.

DIAMETER: c. 102'

BANKS: Inner, 12' wide and 1'6" high above interior where best preserved.
Outer (counterscarp), c. 9' wide and 1'6" to 2' above ditch bottom.

DITCH: c. 6' wide at bottom which lies c. 8' below top of inner bank.

CONDITION: Much overgrown and bisected by a boundary hedge.*

PLANNED: No (with planning)

MAPPED: 1909.

* No trace seen by Brian Williams 7/2/74

DRUMBOY

O.S. 30

Grid ref. H903116

A ring-work with bank ditch and counterscarp bank, sited on a drumlin top at 450 ft O.D., with very extensive views on all sides. Diameter is about 102 ft. The inner bank is 12 ft wide and where best preserved is 1 ft 6 ins high above the interior. The outer (counterscarp) bank is about 9 ft wide and rises 1 ft 6 ins to 2 ft above the ditch bottom. The ditch is about 8 ft wide at the bottom which lies about 8 ft below the top of the inner bank. The monument is much overgrown and bisected by a boundary hedge.

SOUTERRAIN RECORDING SHEET.

ARM 3077 (INV. 37)
"CAVE" - B

DOWNLAND <u>DRUMBEG</u> <hr/> PARISH _____ <hr/> BARONY _____ <hr/> COUNTY <u>ARMAGH</u> <hr/> LOCAL NAME <u>Local pro Drumbeg ("Drum Bui")</u>	L A N D O W N E R S	present <u>MR Michael Nugent</u> <u>Drumbeg</u> <hr/> past <u>his father</u> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
6" sh. no. _____ <hr/> <u>30</u> sh. _____ pl. _____ tr. _____	cm. from _____ <hr/> cm. from _____ <hr/>	FIELD NAME _____ ? <hr/> ADJOINING FIELD NAMES _____ ? <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
I.G. ref. _____ <hr/> ASSOC. MONUMENT TYPE <u>Rath</u>	DATE OF DISCOVERY _____ ? <hr/> METHOD _____ ?	
DESCRIPTION OF ASSOC. MONUMENT <u>An oval earthwork which is c. m NW to SE c.d. c. m NE to SW. The site is crossed by a field fence which divides the interior roughly into two. The northern half is defined by two scoops separated by a beam while the southern is delimited by a bank, an external ditch and a second outer bank. The interior is uneven and rises towards the centre. No trace of any bank on northern half just a scarp platform. No trace of original entrance.</u>		
DESCRIPTION OF SITING <u>This rath is situated on the summit of a steep sided hill - a drumlin - to the NW of Drumbeg Lough. There is an extensive view from its summit over the surrounding countryside - all directions. The surrounding land is limited by its stoniness, and steep-slopes to pasture. Much rocky scrubland in the vicinity.</u>		
O. D. _____ <hr/> <u>400-500 yr</u>		

DESCRIPTION OF SOUTERRAIN

Mr. Jean Lucky Lissacow aged c. 45 yrs :- He had the tradition that the souterrain in a fort on his land near to Drumboy (pre. Drumbea) fort and that there was a "cave" in that fort. He had never seen the latter however. (18th June '80)

Mr. Patrick Mc Entegaret Lissacow aged c. 35 yrs :- He too had the tradition (from his grandfather) that the souterrain is Lissacow's fort ran under Cappagh bog to the fort on Drumboy hill but had never seen or heard of any cave there. (18th June '80)

Mr. Michael Nugent Drumbea aged c. 40 yrs He had the tradition of a "cave" in the fort. It has not been open within living memory. A large grass-green depression occupies the northern half of the fort. It is roughly 'V' shaped in plan. It runs roughly NW to SE for 5.0 m. where it is approx 3 to 4 m wide. At its SE end it turns NE. width and runs for 7.30 m to the edge of the scarp platform. Its maximum depth is c. 50 cms (with fall of ground). Mr. Nugent had the tradition that the 'cave' had fallen in creating this depression which marks its spot.

Many people in the area have the tradition of the cave's existence.

plan-sections _____

site plan _____

photo's _____

NAME

P. Gosling

ASSISTANT'S
NAME

G. Miller

DATE

20th June 1980

362 DRUMBOY: RATH AND POSSIBLE SOUTERRAIN

400ft + OD

Drumboy Fort

CS 30; IG 280

H 9029 1160

Although this site has been damaged in places, it remains an impressive monument, located on the top of a drumlin with very extensive views all around, especially across the valley of the Fane River into Co. Monaghan. The central enclosure is oval, measuring 26.5m north-east/south-west by 29.0m north-west/south-east. The interior has a slightly domed profile and a depression noted in the north-eastern quadrant in 1983 may indicate a collapsed souterrain, although Paterson recorded the souterrain entrance as being on the west. Bonfires had apparently been lit in the area of the hollow noted in 1983 and subsequent erosion may have caused its appearance, but it is perhaps more likely that the heat cracked the lintels of a souterrain, precipitating the collapse. The hollow has subsequently been infilled and is now level with the rest of the interior.

The central platform is enclosed on the south-east and north-west by a prominent bank, about 4.0m wide and 1.0m high above the interior, while around the south-west perimeter there is a steep scarp which falls almost 2.5m to the base of a ditch, some 4.5m wide. From here, a counterscarp bank, up to 3.9m wide, rises some 1.2m and stands 1.0-1.4m above the external ground level, although it has been eroded on the south-west by cattle. The north-eastern sector of the site is also defined by a steep scarp, but there is no evidence for a ditch, simply a berm about 5.0m wide, before a second scarp, preserved below a hedge boundary, falls about 1.0 m. There is no obvious entrance, but the inner bank is interrupted on the north-west and south-east where it is crossed by a modern field bank. The interior and banks have been disturbed in several places.

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Paterson Ms 135