

KILLADEAS

Sim 7 Ferm 192:1

(2) 10-1

Co Fermannagh
6 sheets 15
Rockfield H.
Dennyvulla-par. Cl. dis.
#206539

- ✓ PBANNING 1940 p. 153
- ✓ JRSAG LXV (1935) 23-33
- ✓ Larry Comy 1919 Table II
- JRSAG XLII 135.

(Niamh Rector.)
see walk notes (60)
Lynchmore

History before ownership of
Devenish Cables unknown.

A Short History of the Manor

THE lands of Killadeas on which the Manor House Hotel stands acquired this name from the Religious Community of the Ouldees or Ceile-De of Devenish, who owned these lands for many centuries and on which there was an Ancient Church and Graveyard. It is unknown whether or not the Ancient Church of Killadeas existed before the Ouldees acquired these lands. In fact, almost all that is known about it is that it was called the Yellow Church, and that Isaac Butler saw it on his way to Lough Derg in 1644 and he gave the following account of it:—"Two miles from Ballycessidy are ye ruins of ye Yellow Church on the roadside; it is a rude sculphure and built like a barn."

The ancient Churchyard of Killadeas or, at least part of it, is incorporated in the Churchyard surrounding the Modern Church of to-day. Captain John Irvine, next brother to Colonel Christopher Irvine, of Castle Irvine, acquired the Killadeas estate in 1660, and the Manor House was then known as Rockfield. It remained as Rockfield until it was rebuilt in 1860 by Colonel J. G. Irvine, who brought from Italy, workmen to do the interior decoration which exists to this day. The Irvine family were the descendants of the Irvines of Bonshaw. The name of Rockfield was changed to Killadeas Manor House by Major John Irvine who succeeded to Killadeas in 1835 and died in 1860. His son, Colonel J. G. Irvine, who rebuilt Killadeas, incorporated some part of the old house into the new mansion.

In a directory of Fermannagh, published in 1879, the author states that Rockfield was built in 1710, and "greatly altered and added to" in 1868 by Colonel Irvine "under the direction of that able and artistic architect, Mr. Armstrong of Belleek. . . . The stair window is a classic piece of architecture, being an exact copy of a portion of the Coragie monument at Athens, by Lihocrates."

During the 1939-45 war it was requisitioned by the Government and was for a time used by the American Forces. The house itself was used as an Officers' Mess and Headquarters for the Seaplane base of Killadeas. It was a 'plane from this base which sighted the "Bismarck" and consequently resulted in the destruction of this mighty battleship. The Manor House remained in the Irvine family until 1957 when it was acquired for an hotel.

KILLADEAS

^{N.W.}
North-west of corner of modern church.

Large erect rectangular slab
4'7" ~~in~~ (repeated 5'3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ") x 3'0" ~~in~~
x 4'-8" ~~in~~. North edge dressed
straight, South edge rough and
broken. Shaping at N-side of top
~~seems~~ ^{seems} deliberate.

East side, cross of arms in circle,
on thick stem, forking towards
~~the~~ base. Lamy-Camy and Macalister
described a boat shaped base, but
this cannot now be seen ^{at all} clearly.
Ring and stem in ~~the~~ high
relief (1"-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " above background).
Cross slightly less high relief,
decorated with interlaced motifs:

triple knots to right and at bottom,
less clear elsewhere (see Macalister's
drawing). ^{Lamy-Camy} ~~Macalister~~ saw defaced
interlace between the arms of the cross,
of which ~~there is~~ no sign now
except slight unevenness. ~~The~~
Crossing ~~is~~ very weathered, but the
outlining bands of the cross may
~~have been~~ ^{be} interlaced at the centre.
Macalister read a half ^{uncial} ~~uncial~~
inscription in line with the stem
to the left: BENACHT AR ART
U LURCAIN, not now visible.

West side: traces of about 15
partial and complete cupmarks,
2"-4" deep, ~~and~~ various diameters.

Lamy-Camy 1935, ..., plate IVc + pl. V arb.
Macalister 1949, 123, no. 958 pl. 47.
(erect stone, p. 0)

KILLADEAS

~~There is~~ No sign of, and nothing
known of, ~~the~~ stone mentioned
in P.S. 1940, 153 no. 3: "Stone with
a small Greek cross inscribed on
it, with two lines cut underneath."

KILLADERS

Fern. as 6" sheet 15.
Clogher dioc.

Lanny Comy JRSAD 1985 LXV, p. 23-33 The sculpt^d stones at Killadass.

Rockfield td. Present ch. 1881. Early ch. site, formerly Devenish Culdees.

Cross shaft: found lying w-to socket in wh. reset. Conglom + looks like p-stone. Told was cross, in fact lying mem^y, loose w socket, fell + head lost. More a less round - unique in Ireland (tho' North^W + Wales, early type). Broken. 3'9" high.

Cross slab: found upright. N-S facing. 5'3 3/4" high, 3'0 1/4" wide. 6"-7" thick. S face 13-14 cup marks, varying depths. N face cross. In cross arms triquetra + sackg between traces ill. (of D'cealtra) Circle forked stem rather roughly carved. high relief, + oak staves on base. 6" above cross, small round hole in slab. Macal found inscrip. on left side, vert^y || to stem. Undated v. betw. reads "bendacht/ar aut / uiruc/ain" formula us. for living person. Nolk^y fr. chnals. lft cross type + D'cealtra + sug^s @th

"Brother stone" W. side head + S. ecclesiastic. found at foot of grav. Sup 2 periods carving + 3 prev. uses. N. side right cheek indic^d. but S-side this flattened, sup when eccles. done. Top of head chipped. Panel below w/illace. 4 strands mak^y knots top + bottom. Close sec. one gap perh. mistake. Curves lower bottom than top. In profile rather curved. faced sup. might result if head had a body + this chipped off + replaced with illace. Top of head cent^y chipped. The face recalls White Island; somewhat pagan appearance. Ds illace as ae of White Dillips tho' 6 strand + nae open. Eccles. diff tech. + later date, walk^y w/ crozier + bell. Top head chipped away when stone present shape - some of^s w/ carved. but this more accomplished. Macal. faces inscrip on body - betw^y rosary beads. Several @ @ Dnt^y eccles. so called incl ae son of Cuamu. abbot of Fahan, d. 672 affir^y w. Fahan slab. Stone max 3'5 1/2" high x 1'3 1/2" x 9" Macal sup. later reuse as coat. w/ beam on face (no signs wear).

HISTORY

Name ran Culdees. owned graveyard rather land in area. Ruins of the Yellow Ch' hill cross yrs before, only 200-300' fr. graveyard. Ref'd to 1744 journal, of wide sculpture "built like a Saw". Name + founder unknown. Site said to be holar. other side of main road. Don't know where Culdees pos. d K. and any earlier con^s. Early 17th Dev. Culdees still flourishing, incl. Killadass.

Cup marks sup. pagan car. D's slab @th sup was ch. pre Culdees. Head perh. end 7-8 + both. @th ± know nolk^y about White Island. Sheds^y pagan appear. head + wh. Dnt^y. yet assoc^d. ch. sites. Poss both pagan sanct^y sites. But white Dnt^y. good sup. 7th post Chr. Carved. (2nd) mixture pagan-Chr. hours + circles. Sup. box etc. poss sanct^y sites or poss Chr. sculpt^y in pagan idiom. Affir^y Dnt^y have, some pagan person some Chr. + some unknown.

- Notes IV a vs. "cross shaft", shows ledge not in my photo.
- c. Cupmarks - back of cross slab
 - v. a+b. Front of cross slab, shaping base
 - vi. a+b cd bishop stone, v. clear of ecclesiastical.

L-C 1919 table II - probable muns 169 to.

Hed. par. ? Demynnan. Then ? Devenish.

New Tron parish. Rockfield Rd.

Runs seen by Isaac Butler c. 1740.

p. 41 1818 map, marked in mine.

Look for hollow other side of road, possible church site.

- again at Bishop stone

cross slab

? cross stem

? window

but where is PSATHING stone?

(3) stone with small Gk cross + 2 lines underneath

Macalister 1949 p. 123 plate XLVII.

958. (i). Slab 5'2" x 3'0" x 4 1/2" hollow back indicate earlier appropriation.

Other, cross pattee in cude w. high a ans + debased illice in cantons.

Stem forked as in it were (soak-st) base. Much debased inscrip dexter side

BENDACHT AR ART U LURCATIN

Not known.

959 (ii) 3'5 1/2" x 1'8 1/2" x 9". Re 3 uses ...

Brick P. - an gamech letters R=B + end A.

slps ROBERTA (CN)

Not known.

Visited 11.10.66

Site: an N+E flatish land then slight rise. To West slight slope down - must be very close to water. (very damp conditions - much moss)



Graveyard: old part (not at all well kept by Co Council - v overgrown - needs thorough clean) is to North of present church. Rectangular, walled on NW+E tho walls rather overgrown too. Recently buried in

Socket stone: 5 ft NE of pillar stone. very large stone set ~~to~~ ^{with faces to E+W.} long way. upright, v. broken ground + growth all around. Hole visible in centre, and ~~thru~~ ^{thru} clean sug is a large socket stone, set up at 90°.

West side: rougher, uneven, & somewhat recessed around the hole. Overall width $\approx 3'8''$.
Width of socket $8\frac{1}{2}''$; length (lit as narrow set) $1'5''$ + depth to other side $7''$.
Shape: straight sides, ends rounded, socket sides vertical.

Max width of stone $13''$ Top as narrow set roughly rounded. Total ht of stone unknown - but max now visible $2'$ on E side. Width E side $3'8''$.
Surface to East flatter except a South side where cracked - several incipient cracks. Is a very massive boulder. As far as I know, is unpublished.

"Cross base" - max ht. $3'9''$. Circumf. $4'3''$ measured $6''$ from bottom. Roughly circ. section in lower part, tapering towards square with rounded corners.
W side at $2'5''$ high from base is clipped - step in, & broken at top. ^{Sub. of stone clipped most but set in casing}
Stone set in concrete in large socket stone, completely covered with grass until I uncovered it. Exact size of socket not clear; cement. Stone seems irreg oval slab. Flat surface, rather undulating edges, roughly (not quite fully uncovered all round) $2'9''$ N-S x $2'10''$ E-W.

Large cross slab - boat-shaped base not at all clear now this can have the irregularity.
Fork + stem thicker than Macal's drawing suggests - are $2\frac{1}{2}''$ wide, + max $1''$ above genl surface. Top of cross max $1\frac{1}{2}''$ above surface. Can see irregularities, but not Macal's inscription. Macal in drawing schematises shape of stone.
On ^(North) right, straight edge, definitely worked. Stone $8''$ wide to about $3'-4''$ at top. Sides fairly rectangular, squarish corners. Inside ring of cross irreg, surfaces, slightly higher than outside, about $11''$ below top of ring + cross in reserve. Can't see all details of stone Macal draws - right + bottom clearest, others more worn. No trace of interlace now in carvings. Macal exaggerated eccentricity of head to stem - is only slightly skew. Also form of fork rather  than his . Base $2'6''$ long; stem $11''$ to top of fork. Vert ht of fork $7\frac{1}{2}''$ Width bet ext. edges across fork $10\frac{1}{2}''$ - internal $4\frac{1}{2}''$ + internal vertical height $4\frac{1}{2}''$. Ext dia of ring of cross $1'4(\frac{1}{2})''$, ring $\frac{1}{2}''$ wide.

Seems possible was interlaced at centre crossing of arms

Max width of stone 3'6" ← height as at present. 4'7"

Upt part of S side broken, + lower part not as regular as north side.


Back (West side) - a right unevenness; left straight except for chip at very top. Many complete + partial cupmarks. c. 2"-4" deep, varying diam + depth. Traces of 15 complete or partial.

? what stone - ~~prob~~ looks like a greyish sandstone.

NB. Irregularity at top of N side may be deliberate shaping.

Bishop stone. Close to old N wall of graveyard - not far from N corner.

Present max ht. 2'8½" x 1'3"-4" x 9"-10". At present set in concrete. (Why discrepancy with D+C?) Macalister drawing wrong in several ways. Ecclesiastic is in frame, 1"-1½" wide, flatish, carved round under feet to complete the panel. Standing on the definite groove.

Waderfully detailed sculpture - shoes, bell clapper, shape of crozier head. Note groove flanking edge moulding on inside carved up as straight line to left of ecclesiastic's nose, defines its edge. Top certainly impression - or battered. Note slight groove to right of shoulder - impression of small hood at neck. West side: face - cheek to S. certainly straighter than left. strange line from corner of right side mouth. Face rather crude of Bishop. Youth open rectangle with slightly rounded corners, deeply sunk all round nose  + rather round eyes, defined by sunk circles round. Top of head battered. Trace of brow above left eye (viewer's left). Panel set in with interlaced defined by edge moulding as front. The groove shaped at top to run under chin; look like a collar [reminds me of small Clogher cross].

North side rough, but dressed flat at base, chips above. S side also flat, dressed, chips ~~to~~ North + rounded off at top, battered looking. No sign at all of wear as on a corbel

- Could hill have belonged to bishop? Style cert^s seems rather different, but mouldings very similar.

"Cross shaft" 21 paces NW of NW corner of nave.

Cross slab is 6 p. W. of N. of "cross shaft".

Didn't look in any detail at hollow on other side of road - poss church site. Not even sure exactly where - perhaps to W of school tho looks v. low there & perhaps damp.

21 p.
12 p. = 30 ft
24 = 60

Consider bishop stone, ape, of^s with Camdouggh, Clogher White Island etc.

" cross slab likely date range of cross type.

No sign of 3rd stone listed in PSATUNG + appar^y none ex Lady J. knows!

poss popan assoc^{ns} - stand p stone + cup marks. Perhaps a form of Christianised stand p stone + poss fr. l.c. repair and had socket at top for cross.

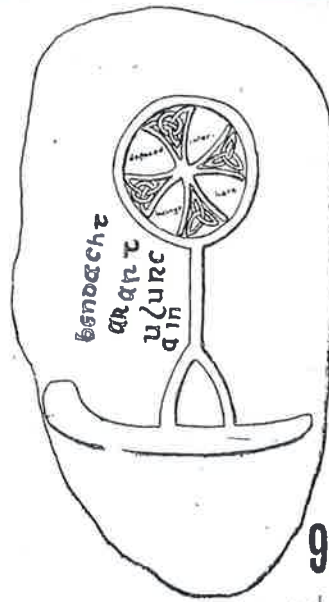
B 530-45.

M.F. file (Br. Del.) - Lady L.C. 1934 reported a K stone ① bishp ② slab w. Ck cross = curia + altar marking
③ shaft + socket of cross is uncaved conglou.

26 p.

127 = 30

KILLADEAS



958

Macalister 1949 pl. XLVII.



Lionard 1960-1.

KILLADEAS Fem.



959

Macalister 1949
pl. XLVII.