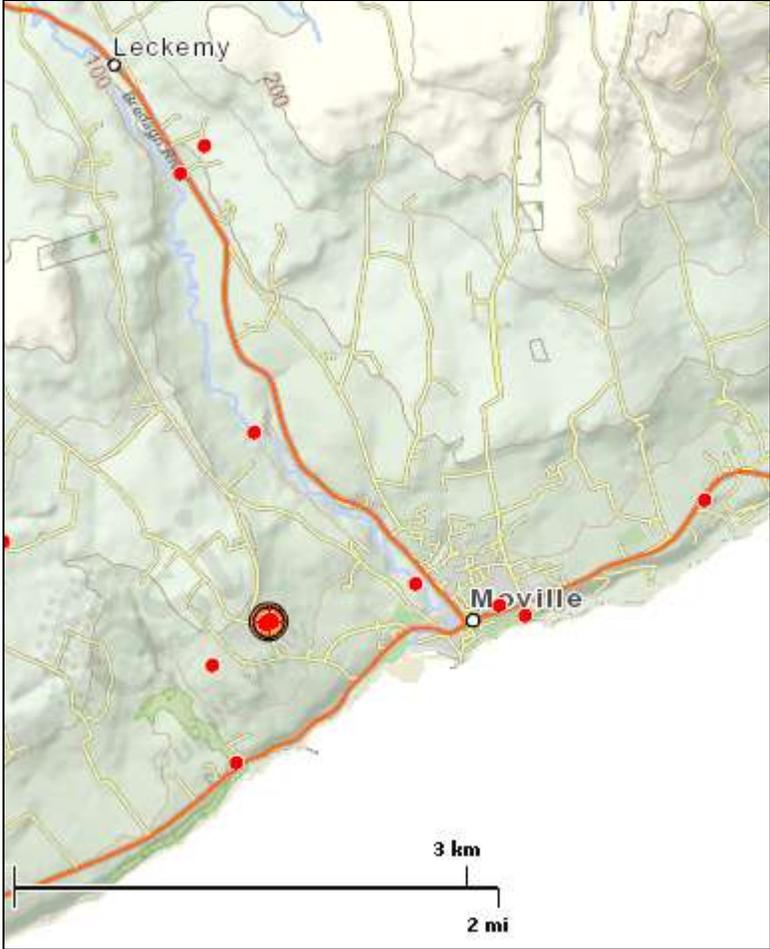


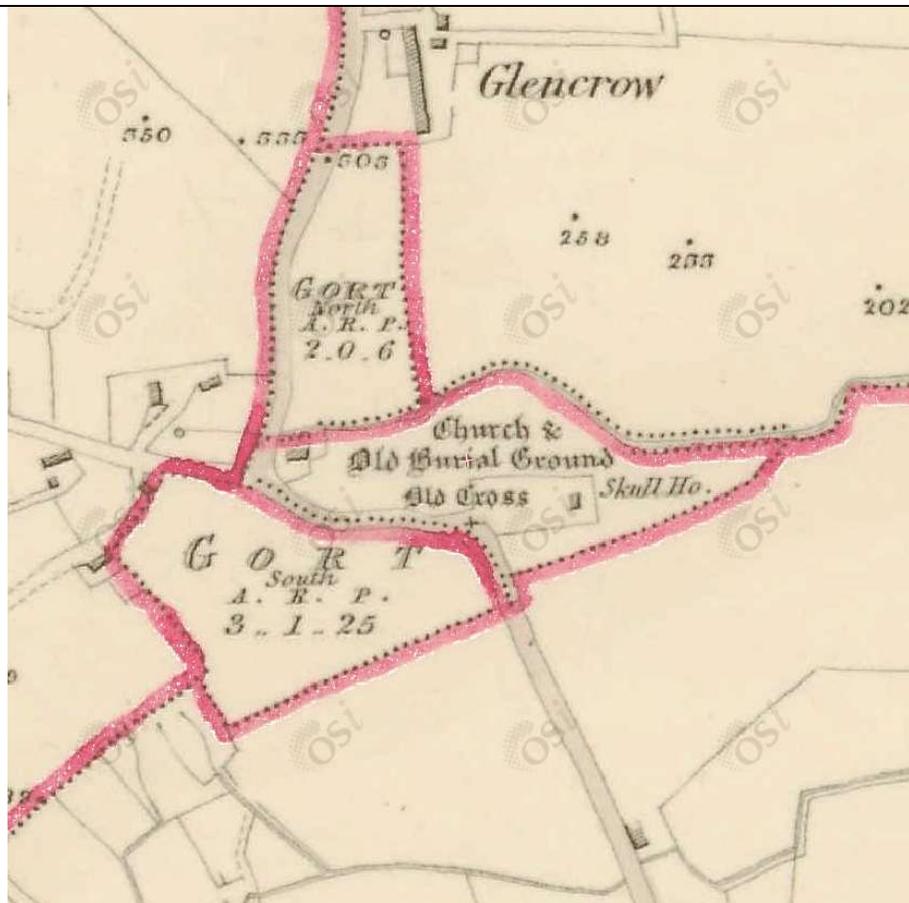
Asset Ref No.	Cooly – Graveyard & Site (DG021-008001- DG021-008017)	
Heritage Type	Built	
Location	OS 6-inch map sheet	
	Townland	Stroove
	Parish	Moville Lower
	LCA	Inishowen Head to Quigley's Point
	ITM Coordinates	
	NG Coordinates	
Protection Status	RMP	
Condition	Substantial remains	
Ownership (if known)		
Site Description	<p>The early ecclesiastical site here consists of a modern subrectangular graveyard inside of which are a number of earlier features. To the W outside the entrance to the graveyard (DG021-008001-) is a tall, plain, ringed high-cross (DG021-008005-). Inside the graveyard are the remains of two churches (DG021-008002/003-) and a mortuary house or tomb shrine (DG021-008004-). One of the churches served as a medieval parish church (Leslie 1937, 265). One of the churches served as a medieval parish church (Leslie 1937, 265). North Church (DG021-008003-): only the E gable survives. It is built of roughly coursed split stone and rubble, is c. 5.5m long and 3.7m high. It has a narrow lintelled window .9m high with splayed ingoings; the jambs are missing. The gable is bonded at right angles to the grave-yard wall and the latter may be on the line of the original N wall of the church. The NE quoin is modern. The SE corner of the church is obscured by a table tomb. There are no signs of the S wall and the W graveyard wall may be on the line of the W wall of the church. There are two blocks with characteristic medieval punched dressing, reused in the NW exterior corner of the graveyard wall.</p> <p>To the W outside the entrance to the graveyard (DG021-008001-) is a tall, plain, ringed high-cross (DG021-008005-). Inside the graveyard are the remains of two churches (DG021-008002/003-) and a mortuary house or tomb shrine (DG021-008004-). One of the churches served as a medieval parish church (Leslie 1937, 265). This cross is located in the townland of Cooly and not the adjoining townland of Carrownaff as suggested by Harbison in his study of Irish High Crosses. The cross is described by Harbison as 'An undecorated ringed cross, 2.8m high and 80cm across the arms, stands outside the gate of Cooley or Cooley cemetery in the townland of Carrownaff, near Moville. The shaft, which expands slightly upwards, is 39cm wide and 17cm thick at the bottom. There is an asymmetrically-placed hole in the upper limb of the cross, above the level of the ring. The cross stands in an irregularly-shaped base, 2.1m long , 90cm broad and about 20cm high, with a hole near the northern end' (Harbison 1992, vol. 1 33-4). The dating of this cross remains speculative as there are no decorative details on which to securely date the cross.</p> <p>Mortuary House or tomb shrine known locally as the 'Skull House' (DG021-008004-): NE of</p>	

	<p>the South Church (DG021-008002-) is a small gabled structure with a stone roof, built of rubble masonry 2.6m × 1.8m externally. The gable is 2m high. It contains a single chamber with a corbelled roof rising to a central capstone. The E wall has a small light .38m × 0.12m with slightly splayed ingoings. There is a small lintelled door .37m square in the W gable (Waterman 1960, 82-8). E of the Mortuary House is a small basin stone or possible bullaun stone (DG021-008008-) and to the NW a small cross-inscribed stone (DG021-008007-). A fragment of a cross-slab (DG021-008008) with a wheeled-cross was found lying in the interior of the South Church.</p> <p>E of the Mortuary House is a small basin stone or possible bullaun stone (DG021-008008-) and to the NW a small cross-inscribed slab (DG021-008007-) .8m high × 0.46m wide E-W. The Latin cross has bar terminals and the upper portion of a central ring. It is probably a modern grave-marker.</p> <p>This cross is located in the townland of Cooley and not the adjoining townland of Carrownaff as suggested by Harbison in his study of Irish High Crosses. The cross is described by Harbison as 'An undecorated ringed cross, 2.8m high and 80cm across the arms, stands outside the gate of Cooley or Cooley cemetery in the townland of Carrownaff, near Moville. The shaft, which expands slightly upwards, is 39cm wide and 17cm thick at the bottom. There is an asymmetrically-placed hole in the upper limb of the cross, above the level of the ring. The cross stands in an irregularly-shaped base, 2.1m long, 90cm broad and about 20cm high, with a hole near the northern end' (Harbison 1992, vol. 1 33-4). The dating of this cross remains speculative as there are no decorative details on which to securely date the cross.</p> <p>On the S side of this church (DG021-008002-) also is a small stone cross (DG021-008009-) .73m × 0.6m with some indecipherable lettering on the E face. It is probably a modern grave-marker.</p> <p>An upright slab located with ring-headed cross carved in relief in W quadrant of Cooley graveyard (DG021-008001-) to W of church (DG021-008002-) was recently discovered during graveyard clean-up scheme.</p> <p>A poorly preserved upright cross-shaped slab (H 0.59m; Wth shaft 0.33m; Wth arms 0.38m; T 0.1m) in Cooley graveyard (DG021-008001-) shows traces of a ring-headed cross carved in relief of which only the lower right quadrant of the ring is visible. This slab is located immediately N of the bullaun stone (DG021-008008-).</p> <p>A fragment of a cross-slab (DG021-008008) with a wheeled-cross was found lying in the interior of the South Church (DG021-008002-).</p> <p>An upright slab (H 0.33m; Wth 0.4m ; T 0.06m) carved in relief with a monks head with protruding ears and hunched shoulders in Cooley graveyard (DG021-008001-) was recently discovered during graveyard clean up scheme.</p> <p>Well preserved ring-headed cross incised onto an upright slab (H 0.63m; Wth 0.23m; T 0.07m) in Cooley graveyard (DG021-008001-) which was recently discovered during graveyard clean-up scheme.</p> <p>The site is located on excellent land sloping to Lough Foyle to the E and is traditionally</p>
--	---

	claimed to have been founded by St. Patrick. (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 399).
Landscape Context (setting)	Set within good grazing land, approximately 1km west of Movice.
Site Appraisal	The site contains substantial remains, including church buildings, decorated crosses, burials, etc. This was a very important early Christian site and the original settlement that later became Movice.
Sensitivity	This site is located 1km west of Movice, however the local community actively protect and enjoy this heritage amenity.
Associations	There are over 130 early Church sites known in Co. Donegal (Lanigan Wood & Verling 1995, 55). These sites have a relatively even distribution throughout the county, with a good number dotted around the Inishowen Peninsula. Magh-bili (Movice) or Domnach Bili (Church of the ancient tree) was according to local tradition associated with St. Patrick in the 5th Century.
Recommendations	
Mapping	 <p>Location Map (www.archaeology.ie)</p>



Location Map – close up (www.archaeology.ie)



1st edition OS map c. 1830 (www.osi.ie)

	<p>2nd edition OS map c. 1905 (www.osi.ie)</p>	
<p>References</p>	<p>Lacey, B. (1983) Archaeological Survey of County Donegal.</p> <p>Lanigan Wood, H. & Verling, E. (1995) Stone Sculpture in Donegal, in W. Nolan, L. Ronayne & M. Dunlevy, (ed's) <i>Donegal History and Society</i>, p.51 – 84</p>	
<p>Plates</p>		
<p>Additional Notes</p>		