

## Stone of Lealty (Testing Stone of Clan Munro)

Alness (30 miles north of Inverness)

*Editor – The information regarding this stone is pieced together from emails.*



Finlay Munro 1950

In the green plot outside is a large water-worn boulder, said to have been the lifting stone of the Munroes of Lealty. According to the story, these Munroes possessed great physical strength, and the young men of the family used to lift this stone about a foot and a-half from the ground. The statement seems hardly credible, for the stone appears to weigh about four hundred weight. Still, it is possible to be too unbelieving. There may have been some peculiar way of lifting the stone by which art was brought to the assistance of muscular strength.

Transactions of the Inverness Scientific Society and  
Field Club: Volume 2, p. 320, 1880

There is to be seen at Lealty House, the lifting stone of the old Munros of Lealty. It is of granite, globular, 2 feet in diameter and weighs 7cwt. It is said, on the occasion of the sons of one of the Lairds of Lealty and the heir of the Laird of Tollie, on the opposite side of the river, trying feats of strength, that the heir of Tollie injured his spine in trying to lift the stone. His father complained to the Laird of Lealty, who during the following night got the stone removed to Lealty burn and sunk it into a deep pool. His sons, having missed the stone the following morning, made a quiet search for it, restored it to its former place, and there it now rests, bidding all observers defiance to lift it.

Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, Volume 14, p. 224, 1889

Peter was able to contact a descendant of the man in the picture. He confirmed that he was aware of the stone but not its current location. His best guess was *around Rockfield* near Portmanhomack

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