

Megaliths of Ireland South East Region




County Kilkenny

The South East Region of Ireland contains many interesting structures dating from the neolithic period (2000-3500 BC). They are distributed each side of a line between Dublin and Tramore in Co Waterford. Our intention is to study all thirty sites in the region as time allows.

This task is being approached by locating sites from maps, archeological directories and other published sources, followed by a site visit. All published material we have consulted in recent years deals with type, date, dimensions and orientation of a particular monument. Our research however concentrates on the underground and hidden aspects, ie geology and dowsing effects (especially their effect on the brain/nervous system).

Our special interest is dolmens (cromlechs) which provide a good subject for dowsing.

The stone age people who built these monuments choose a site very carefully, taking into account for example; local topography, geology, proximity to stream or river, location over underground watercourses. All these features remain true 5000 years later. Sites which are of special interest and/or have public access are indicated with "  ". Sites which have been dowsed are indicated with



the symbol;


Of additional interest is the map of **radon levels** for the region shown at page 10. It will be noted that most megalithic sites are sited in areas of high natural radio activity

Other Counties in This Survey




<u>Carlow</u>	Survey completed	Portal dolmens, cists
<u>Wexford</u>	Survey completed	Dolmens
<u>Waterford</u>	Not started	Portal dolmens, passage graves

Megaliths of Ireland -South East Region

County Kilkenny.

Kilkenny has a very large number of megalithic sites mainly in the south of the county. The following Sites were investigated during the year 2000. Sites of particular interest / with public access are indicated by the symbol "  .

Co Kilkenny is not currently included in the Archeological Inventory of Ireland.


<u>Site Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Nearest Town/Village</u>	
1	Barrowmount Page 3	Goresbridge	
2 	Kilmogue (Leac na Scail) Page 4	Harristown	
3	Fornoge Page 5	Mullinavat	
4	Glencroughlea Page 6	New Ross	
5	Rathcorby Page 6	Kilmacow	
6 	Knockroe Page 7	Windgap	
7 	Newmarket Page 8	Newmarket	
8 -12	The following sites in the vicinity of Carrick on Suir <i>have not been visited</i> ; Whitechurch, Kilmacoliver Hill, Owing, Templeorum, Ballyhenebery.		
Sites 1 to 7	Summary Table Pages 9, 8, 10		
South East	Radon Map Page 16		
Co Kilkenny, East	Geology Map Pages 11 & 12		
Sites 1 to 7	Dowsing Diagrams Page 13		
The above sites have been examined with regard to the following aspects/			
i. Monument Type	ii. Siting on Landscape	iii. Siting in relation to geology	iv. Dowsing Effects
v. Solar Alignment	vi. Proximity to river or stream	vii. Radon gas level in that area	

Site 1 Barrowmount

No Photo				
<p>Difficult to classify as the monument is now in a ruined state. It is situated at the bottom of a gentle slope 30 m from the River Barrow, but well above the flood plain. A cist can be discerned at the centre of what is now a pile of rocks.</p> <p><u>Dowsing</u></p> <p><i>The site is located over two underground watercourses which merge beneath and flow onward towards the river at 23 paces below ground.</i></p>				
<u>Bedrock</u>	<u>Boulder Type</u>	<u>Dowsing</u>	<u>Geological Discontinuity</u>	<u>Investigated</u>
Limestone	?	Yes	Yes	1999

Site2;- *Leac na Scail* Dolmen (Kilmogue)

Discovery Series Map Ref 28/50

	<p><i>Flag of the shadow</i></p> <p><i>OPW Protected Site. -- Sli 5 Tour</i></p> <p>Very impressive example which is in a good state of preservation. Signposted with easy access from public road. This is one of the largest dolmens in Ireland, consisting of at least eight large slabs enclosing a well formed central chamber. An unusual feature is that the capstone is supported on a pillow stone resting on the backstone which is cantilevered into the chamber. Some of the larger slabs are approx' 12'x6'x1.5'.</p>	
<p>The monument is constructed of large slabs quarried locally. Entrance faces NE to the summer solstice sunrise.</p>		
<p><u>Dowsing</u>: <i>Quite a complex site to dowse effectively. We found that two springs merge beneath the chamber with outflow to the SE, thus creating a separate energy path in an ENE direction</i></p>		
<p><u>Bedrock /Boulder Type</u> Conglomerate/sandstone</p>	<p><u>Geological Discontinuity</u> No</p>	<p><u>Surveyed</u> 2000</p>

Site 3. Fornoge (Tory Hill) Standing Stone

Discovery Map Ref; 22.5-60




A rectangular standing stone propped with loose stones beneath, dimensions 1 m high x 1 m wide x 0.3 m deep, currently used as scratching post for cattle. Long axis is NS orientation. The stone stands out as a solitary rock in pasture about half way up Tory Hill. From this vantage point it overlooks a long valley. Very deliberately positioned judging by the result below.

Dowsing; *Two streams flow towards the stone ,one from the North the other from the South, merging directly beneath the stone and then flowing ENE down the slope. Strong energy spiral occurs at the stone itself.*

<u>Bedrock</u>	<u>Boulder</u>	<u>Dowsing</u>	<u>Geological Discontinuity</u>	<u>Investigated</u>
Slate/siltstone	shaped	Yes	Yes	2000

Site 4. Glencroughlea Dolmen **Discovery Map Ref; 27.6-69**

		<p><i>Valley of the grey stone.</i></p> <p>This site is just West of the town of New Ross, in pasture at the end of a long lane. Located on gentle slope in field above a small stream. Dolmen is small in good condition with a large capstone. Entrance faces NE.</p> <p><u>Dowsing</u>; <i>Two streams flow towards the stone, one from the NE the other from the NNE, merging directly beneath the stone and with two outflows, one to the SW the other to the South. The resultant energy path to NW is very strong giving a buzzing in the ears and a sensation of discomfort. The flow is approx 5 paces below the ground level</i></p>	
<p><u>Bedrock / Boulders</u></p> <p>Slate / siltstone</p>	<p><u>Dowsing</u></p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Geological Discontinuity</u></p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Investigated</u></p> <p>2000</p>

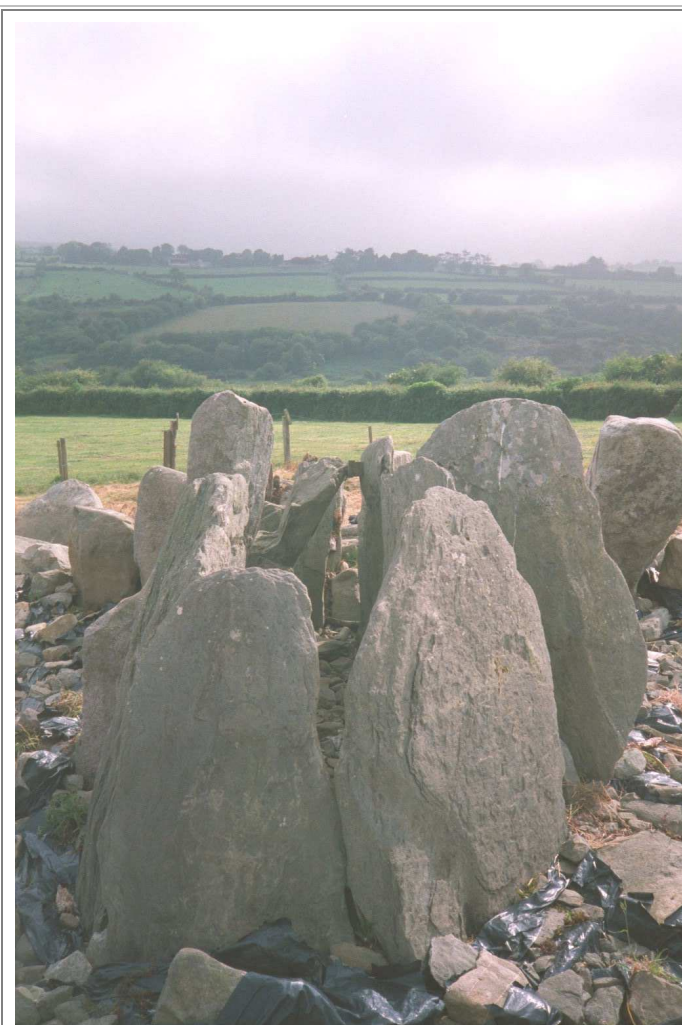
Site 5; Rathcorby (Ballynearla)

No Photo				
<p><u>Site1</u>: The Rathcorby dolmen is adjacent to the public road and approached through a farmyard (permission necessary). The monument is unfortunately now in a ruined state and thickly overgrown.</p> <p><u>Site II</u>: This may have been a megalithic site in the past but is currently just a pile of rocks of very poor quality. However it is an interesting dowsing subject.</p> <p><i>Dowsing: Both sites are located directly over crossed streams.</i></p>				
<p><u>Bedrock</u></p> <p>?</p>	<p><u>Boulder Type</u></p>	<p><u>Dowsing</u></p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Geological Discontinuity</u></p>	<p><u>Investigated</u></p> <p>2000</p>

	?		Yes	
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Site 6- Knockroe Passage Tomb

Discovery Series Map Ref 31/41



----View to South and Lingaun River

Beautifully situated overlooking the valley of the Lingaun River. Access is from farm track. This site excavated between 1990 & 1995. Two tombs were found; the Western and Eastern, both surrounded by a kerb. The site is rich in megalithic art, which is distributed between the kerb (10 stones), the eastern tomb (10 stones) and the western with (10 stones). Quartz once used to embellish the outer retaining wall still lies about the site. A manmade platform between tomb site and river was once used to accommodate large ceremonial crowds. Entrance passage to Western tomb is orientated to sunset at Winter Solstice.

In the vicinity lie Baunfree site to SE two holy wells and a standing stone, indicating the importance of this area in prehistoric times.


Source; Archaeology Ireland. Summer 1996. [Muiris O'Sullivan. University College Dublin]

Dowsing: Each tomb has a watercourse beneath at different levels. Prior to excavation a large ash tree had to be removed. Its roots presumably nourished by existing stream below.

<u>Bedrock /Boulder Type</u>	<u>Geological Discontinuity</u>	<u>Surveyed</u>
greywacke	Yes	2000

Site 7- Newmarket Dolmen

Discovery Series Map Ref 35.3/50.5-Sli 5

	<p>The site is readily accessible from the nearby public road. It consists of one large slab approx 12' long x 7' high seen on left, and two shorter slabs abutting at the top. According to the <i>Sli 5 Booklet</i> it is a dolmen which has lost its capstone. Entrance faces ENE to the summer solstice sunrise.</p>	
<p><u>Dowsing</u>: <i>Single stream at 25 paces down enters from SW and exits to NE.</i></p>		
<p><u>Bedrock /Boulder Type</u></p> <p>na</p>	<p><u>Geological Discontinuity</u></p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Surveyed</u></p> <p>2000</p>

Co Kilkenny -East (under construction)

Site	1.Constructed from		2.Near water	3.Entrance faces East	4. Dowsing Reaction	5.Adjacent to geological discontinuity	6.Radon Level		Remarks
	Quarried Rock	Glacial Boulders					10-20%	>20%	
1.Barrowmount		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		☐	R.Barrow
2.Leac na Scail	☐		☐	NNE	☐	no	na		stream
3. Fornoge		☐	☐		☐	☐		☐	Standing stone
4.Glencloughlea		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		stream
5.Ballynearla			☐			☐		☐	
6.Knockroe		☐	☐	S	☐	na		☐	Passage tomb. R Lingaun
7.Newmarket	☐			☐	☐	☐	☐		
12.Barnacole			☐			☐		☐	
Sites Visited have red numeral	<u>na</u> ; no information available								

Main features in common

Co Kilkenny -West (under construction)

Main features in common

Site	1.Constructed from		2.Near water	3.Entrance faces East	4. Dowsing Reaction	5.Adjacent to geological discontinuity	6.Radon Level		Remarks
	Quarried Rock	Glacial Boulders					10-20%	>20%	
8.Whitechurch									R.Lingaun
9.Kilmacoliver							[]		R.Lingaun
10.Owning			[]					[]	Standing stone
11.Templeorum			[]					[]	stream
13.Ballyhenebery									
Sites Visited have red numeral	<u>na</u> ; no information available								

Kilkenny Geology.

The geology of the county is quite complex; sedimentary rocks eg sandstones, slate, and conglomerates of various types and ages predominate.

Geologic Section Kilkenny South East

As can be seen all sites lie on geological fault or discontinuity lines. The only exception is; Site2- Leac na Scail Dolmen.

Note; The heavy straight lines at right angles to each other in the left half of map is a section line

2. Geological Map Section.- Kilkenny South West (not yet suveyed)



Note:

Site2;
Barnacole
should read
Barneswood.

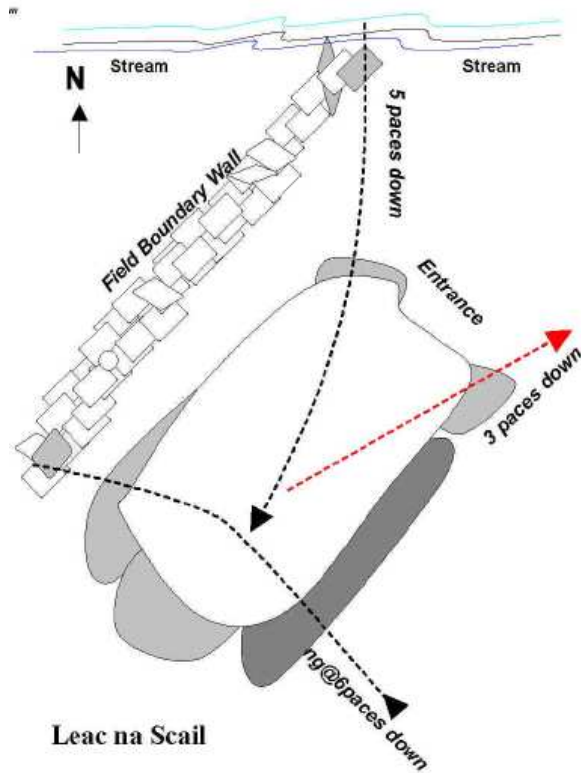
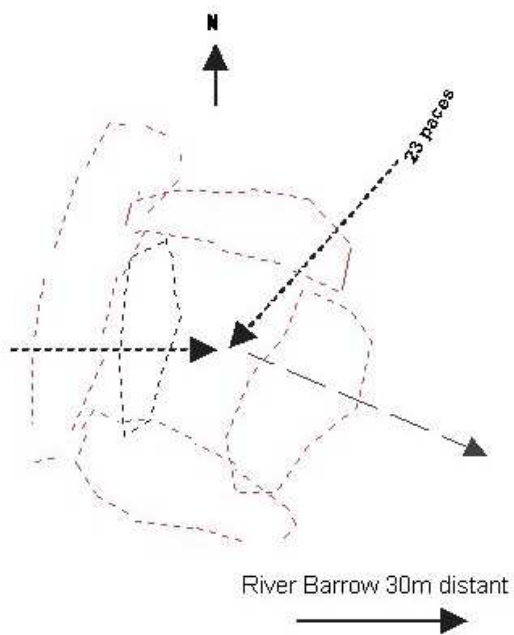
Site5.
Ballynearla
should read
Rathcorby

Co Kilkenny. Dowsing Diagrams

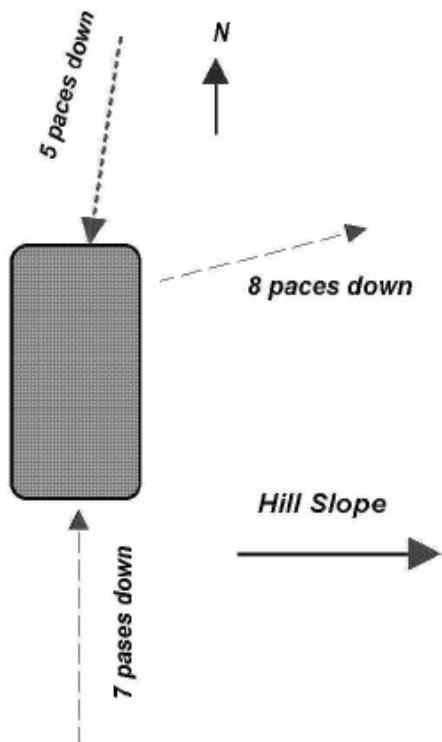
Site 1; Barrowmount

Site 2; Kilmogue (Leac na Scail)

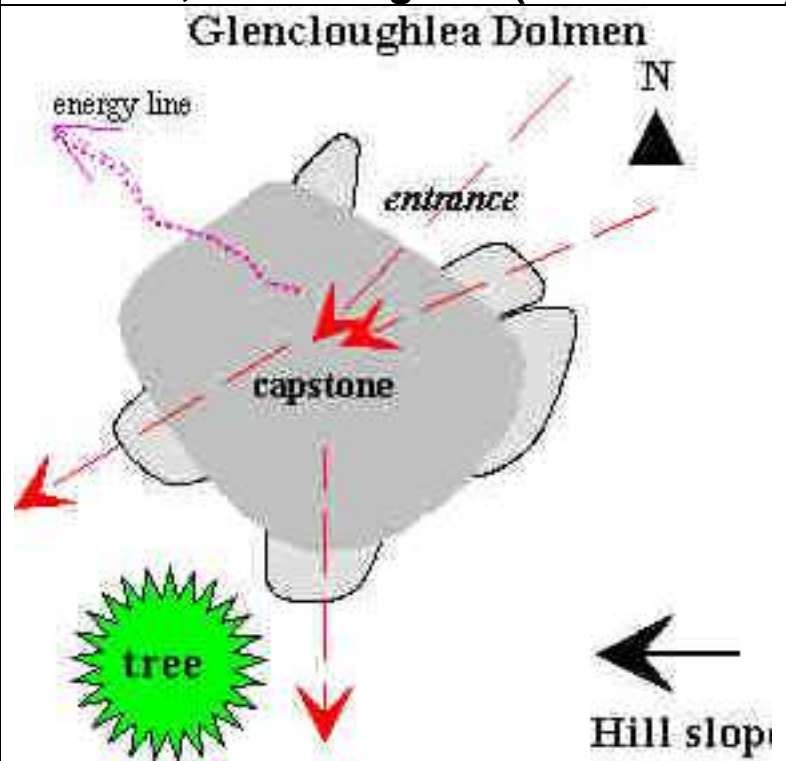
Barrowmount (Nr Goresbridge)

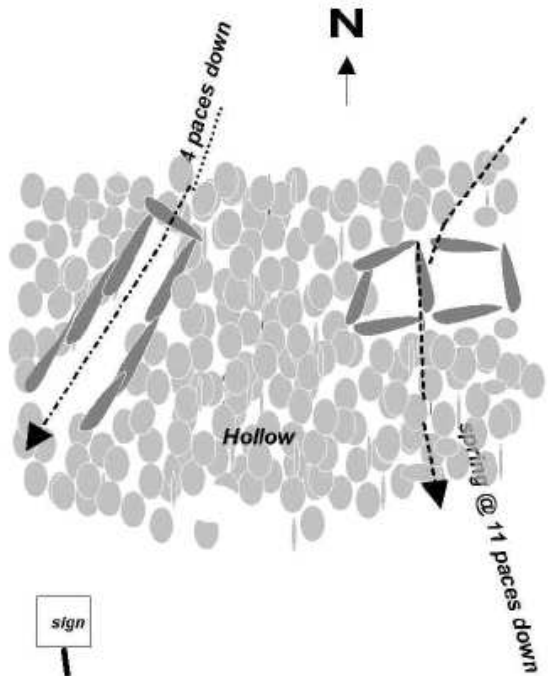
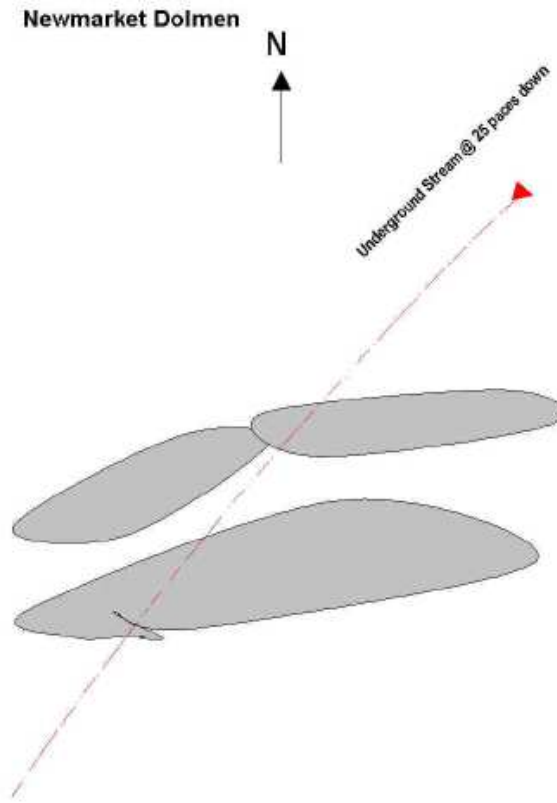


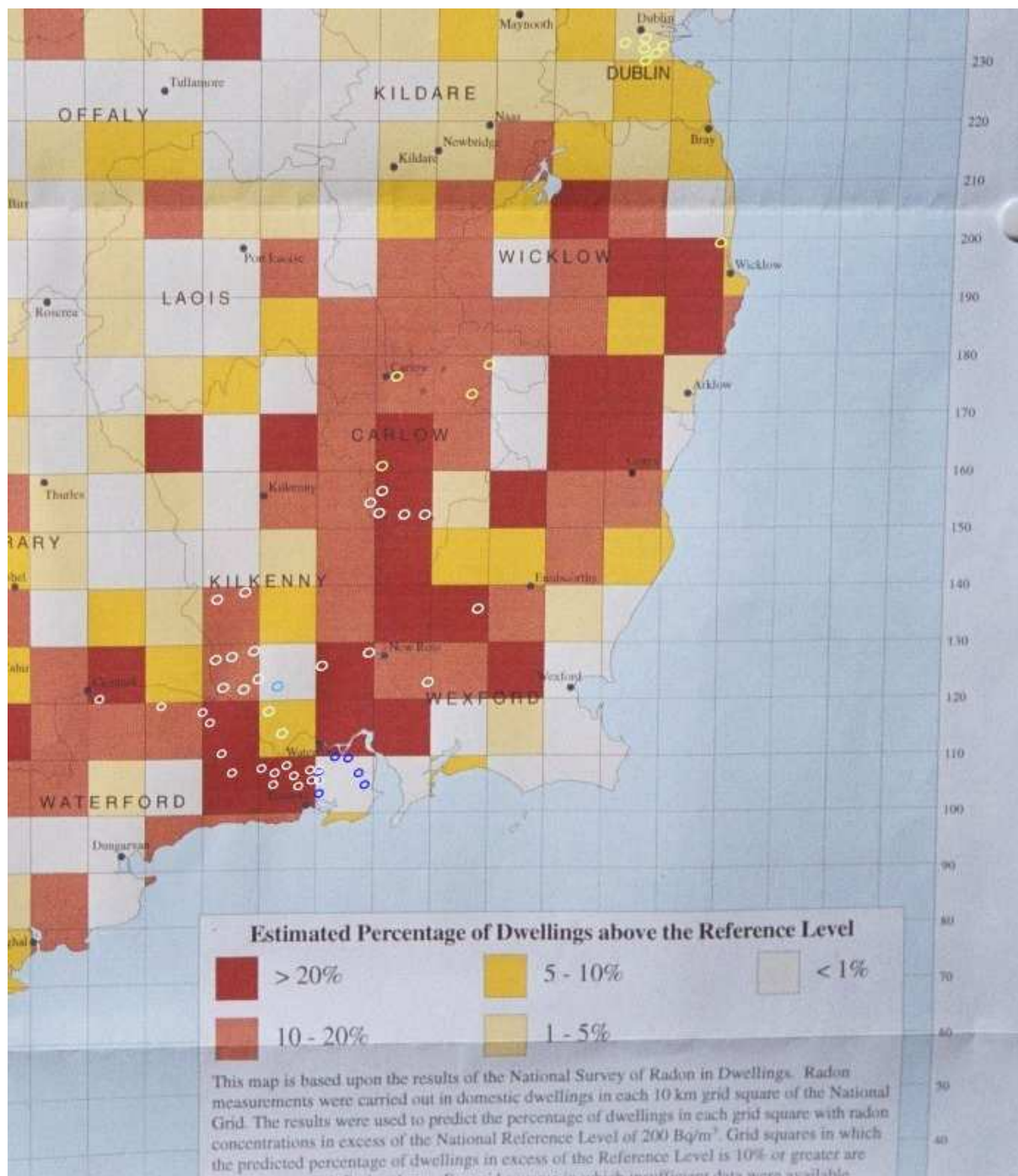
Site 3; Fornoge (Torey Hill)



Site 4; Glencroughlea (nr New Ross)



rathcorby I & II	
Site 6; Knockroe Passage Tomb	Site 7 Newmarket Dolmen
 <p>A plan view diagram of the Knockroe Passage Tomb site. It shows a large area of grey circles representing stones. A central area is labeled "Hollow". A north arrow "N" is at the top. A dashed line with an arrow points from the hollow towards the top-left, labeled "1 paces down". Another dashed line with an arrow points from the hollow towards the bottom-right, labeled "spring @ 11 paces down". A small box labeled "sign" is at the bottom-left. The text "Knockroe Passage Tomb" and "Not to Scale" are at the bottom.</p>	 <p>A plan view diagram of the Newmarket Dolmen site. It shows two large grey oval shapes representing dolmen structures. A north arrow "N" is at the top. A dashed red line with an arrow points from the dolmen structures towards the top-right, labeled "Underground Stream @ 25 paces down". The text "Newmarket Dolmen" is at the top-left.</p>



Radon Levels for South East Ireland
With dolmen sites superimposed.