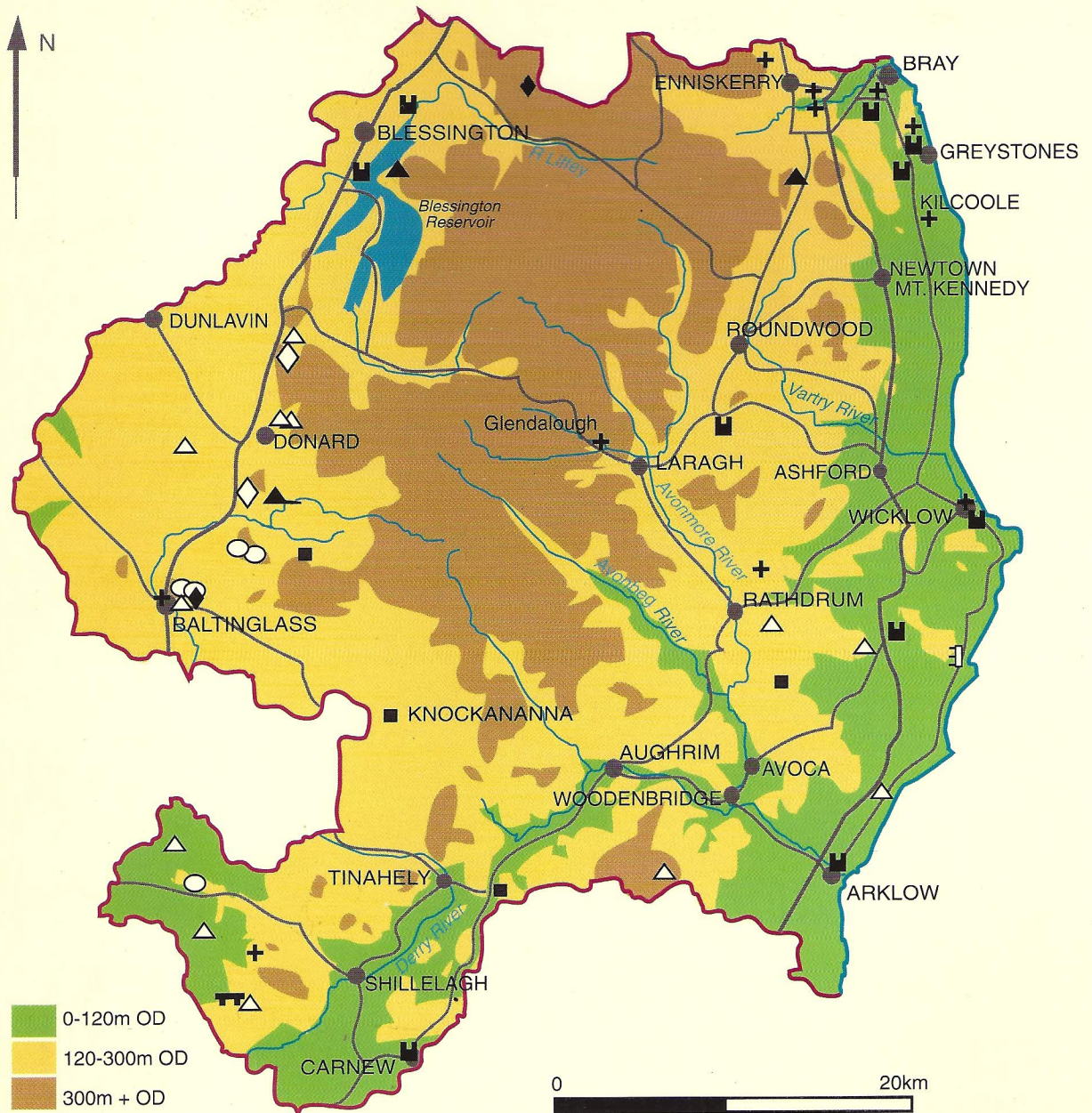


A Guide to the Archaeology of County Wicklow

Eoin Grogan and Tom Hillery



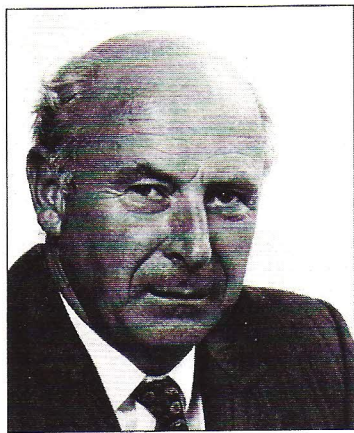
Illustrated by Sarah Cross

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Eoin Grogan and Tom Hillery

Illustrated by Sarah Cross

Foreword



County Wicklow is widely regarded as a County of outstanding natural beauty. It is known around the world for its majestic mountain range, its beautiful valleys and its spectacular coastline.

But the Garden County also boasts a rich cultural heritage including a wealth of very significant archaeological sites. It is with great pleasure that I introduce "*A Guide to the Archaeology of County Wicklow*" which has been produced by Wicklow County Tourism Ltd. to enable our visitors to appreciate and enjoy this tremendous resource.

I wish to commend the Directors of Wicklow County Tourism Ltd., under the Chairmanship of Councillor Michael Lawlor, and in particular its Development Group headed by Mr. Paddy O'Toole, who are responsible for initiating this project and seeing it through to fruition.

I wish to pay a special tribute to the authors, Dr. Eoin Grogan and Dr. Tom Hillery. Both have given enormously of their time to ensure that "*A Guide to the Archaeology of County Wicklow*" is of excellent quality and that it will be of invaluable assistance to all those who wish to explore and enjoy the archaeological heritage of our County.

To all involved in this admirable production I extend my sincere congratulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blaise Treacy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Blaise Treacy
County Manager

County Buildings
Wicklow

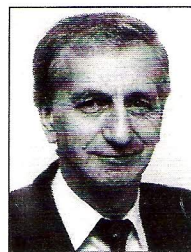
Important Note to Readers

While every care has been taken in the production of this Guide, Wicklow County Tourism Ltd. cannot accept responsibility for any errors or inaccuracies contained herein. Users should note that access to sites on private lands may be restricted in some cases. You are advised to obtain the consent of landowners before entering on any privately owned lands.

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DR. TOM HILLERY is an economist and is a consultant to Wicklow County Tourism Ltd. His specialisation is in Irish natural and human resources development in the context of European integration. His doctoral dissertation studied the policy implications for the small open economy of Ireland within a European currency union. Dr. Hillery has acted as an advisor to Wicklow County Tourism Ltd. since its foundation and is presently co-ordinating a tourism product development and marketing strategy for the county.



Acknowledgements

This book was compiled under the supervision of Tom Hillery as consultant to Wicklow County Tourism Ltd. His valuable contribution both as co-author of the work and as co-ordinator of the project is greatly appreciated. Much of the book is based on work carried out by Eoin Grogan in Co. Wicklow while working on the Archaeological Inventory of the county for the Office of Public Works. Without the field survey, which was conducted within the National Archaeological Survey, O. P. W., this guide book would not have been possible. The authors would like to acknowledge the generous assistance of archaeologists Caroline Donaghy, Roddy Moynihan and John Bradley, Department of Archaeology, University College, Dublin, Tom Condit, Sites and Monuments Office, Office of Public Works, Eamon Kelly, National Museum of Ireland and David Sweetman, National Archaeological Survey, Office of Public Works. The illustrations of Stephen Conlin (copyright O.P.W.) and archaeologist Annaba Kilfeather have added considerably to the visual presentation; our thanks to Aoibheann Kilfeather for her assistance in the planning of Threecastles, to Con Brogan, Office of Public Works for the photograph of Liscolman, to Leo Swan for the aerial photograph of Rathgall and to Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs for the photograph of Baltinglass Hill. Our thanks to Wendy Mullen for her help and commitment to the final preparation of the book. Finally, and most importantly, our thanks to archaeologist Sarah Cross, Department of Archaeology, University College, Dublin, who produced the illustrations and provided constant advice and assistance throughout the preparation of the book.

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	0-120m OD		Passage Tomb		Ringfort
	120-300m OD		Wedge Tomb		Ogham Stone
	300m + OD		Early Bronze Age Burial		Church/Abbey
			Ceremonial Circle		Motte
			Hillfort		Castle/Tower House
					Sites of Special Interest

Fig. 1 Map of archaeological sites in Co. Wicklow

List of sites and monuments

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3	BURGAGE MORE	45	Tower house/high cross/medieval town	N 976 123
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14	KILCOOLE	30, 32	Church/font	O 297 080
15	ATHGREANY ('The Piper's Stones')	13	Ceremonial circle	N 930 032
16	DRUMREAGH	21	Ringfort	N 936 025
17	KILBAYLET LOWER	21	Ringforts	N 934 198
18	DEERPARK	22	Ringfort	N 925 959
19	CASTLERUDDERY LOWER	14	Ceremonial circle	N 915 942
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21	Glendalough	25 - 28	Monastic complex	O 12 97
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27	'Rathcoran'	18	Hillfort	S 844 928
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29	PINNACLE (Baltinglass Hill)	22	Ringfort	S 881 893
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31	DERRYNAMUCK	49	Dwyer-Macallister Cottage	S 96 91
32	BAHANA	33	Church	T 212 895
33	TULLYLUSK	22	Ringfort	T 226 876
34	DUNGANSTOWN WEST	47	Fortified house	T 282 866
35	KILBOY	24	Ringfort	T 263 871
36	CRONEBANE	49	'Mottee Stone'	T 206 832
37	CASTLETIMON	29	Ogham stone	T 298 854
38	LISCOLMAN	23	Ringfort	S 904 747
39	RATH EAST ('Rathgall')	19	Hillfort	S 902 731
40	BARNACLEAGH EAST	24	Ringfort	T 200 734
41	ARKLOW	37	Castle, Viking and medieval town	T 248 732
42	JOHNSTOWN SOUTH	24	Ringfort	T 262 771
43	AGHOWLE	34	Church/font/bullaun	S 931 693
44	MOYLISHA	9	Wedge tomb	S 930 675
45	MOYLISHA	24	Ringfort	S 931 665
46	KILCAVAN UPPER	24	Ringfort	T 038 660
47	CARNEW	47	Tower house	T 014 630
48	CLONMORE, Co. Carlow	48	Castle	S 961 761
49	KNOCKANANNA	49	Local Museum	T 008 812
50	KILLAVENY	49	'St. Patrick's Well'	T 080 724

* National Grid Reference

Entries in capitals refer to townland names

Introduction

The earliest clearly dated settlement of Wicklow occurred in the Neolithic period (Late Stone Age - c 4000-2500 BC) and is indicated by a small number of burial monuments constructed of stone (the megalithic tombs); earlier activity, in the Mesolithic period (Middle Stone Age when communities survived by gathering, fishing and hunting) has yet to be identified. Two types of megalithic tomb are represented in the county, passage tombs, mainly on the hill and mountain tops in the north, and Linkardstown tombs of which the finest example, Ballintruer More, is now unfortunately destroyed. Towards the end of the Neolithic, *wedge tombs* were constructed in several places and probably continued to be used as places of burial and ceremony well into the succeeding Bronze Age (c 2000 - 700 BC). During the earlier part of this period, from c 2000 - 1200 BC, large numbers of individual burials were deposited in small stone lined graves (cists) and unlined pits. These burials were often accompanied by distinctive pottery vessels ("food vessels" and larger urns) and other grave goods occasionally of copper or bronze. These burial sites are often represented by a single grave without any above ground marker or covering but some were placed in *mounds* or *barrows* and these sites may have developed into large cemeteries. The majority of the burials from this period occur along the western, and especially north-western, side of the county and form part of a dense distribution of Early Bronze Age activity which extends into Kildare and Dublin. Little is known of the *funerary* traditions of Iron Age (c 700 BC - 450 AD) although cremations in pits, either in *mounds* or *barrows*, are known in small numbers. However, Wicklow contains a number of impressive hilltop enclosures or *hillforts* especially in the north of the county where they form an important cluster indicating powerful local communities.

In the Early Historic period (c 450 - 1150 AD) large numbers of enclosed domestic habitations, *ringforts* or *raths*, were built and occupied and these represent the most numerous of Wicklow's archaeological sites. These housed the aristocracy and differences in size and complexity may indicate a further degree of ranking. While few of the examples in the county have been excavated a wide range of activities are well attested from other areas of the country. The impact of Christianity is indicated by the number of important early church foundations. There are several small ecclesiastical sites in addition to the great monastic complex at Glendalough established by St. Kevin. In addition to the small churches associated with these sites there are some stone crosses, graveslabs and especially *bulllauns* (see glossary) of which Wicklow has a considerable number. A Viking presence is known at Arklow and Wicklow where trading stations, which may have developed into more extensive settlements, were established. Both of these centres became important medieval towns in the Anglo-Norman period which also saw the emergence of Bray. In the initial decades after the Norman invasion a distinctive type of earth and timber fortification - the *motte* and *bailey* - was built at several locations and some more substantial stone castles followed in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Less elaborate *tower houses*, the fortified houses of the aristocracy (both Anglo-Norman and Gaelic), were erected in the fifteenth to early seventeenth centuries. There is also a range of medieval church sites some of which have been incorporated into modern church buildings.

Wicklow has a wealth of archaeological sites and monuments dating virtually throughout Irish history and prehistory (prior to the fifth century A.D.) Due in part to the relatively poor upland areas of the Wicklow mountains and in part to the interest of local people (and especially of the farmers on whose lands these important sites stand), a considerable number of them survive reasonably intact. They provide a wide array of interesting places for the visitor to see which can also be a source of pride and study for those living in the county. This guide can only deal with a fraction of the archaeological wealth which survives but it is hoped that it will prove useful and stimulating to both local and visitor alike. It is certain also that many more archaeological sites remain to be discovered in the county.

Italicised terms (e.g. *megalithic tomb*, *corbelled*) appear in a brief glossary (pages 52 - 53).

Passage tombs

A passage tomb is a burial place dating to the later part of the Neolithic period (that is between c 3200 to 2500 BC) built of large stone (hence the term *megalithic tomb*) found over much of the northern and eastern part of Ireland and occurring widely along the Atlantic coastal zone of Europe. In Ireland these sites are contained in circular *mounds* of earth or *cairns* (*mounds* of stone) the edge of which are marked by a continuous ring of large stones (the *kerb*). The *mound* has a domed profile and covers one or more burial chambers. In Ireland the majority of the chambers have a central area with small compartments or recesses opening off to the sides and at the end (so-called cruciform plan) but many consist of a simple rectangular, round or oval chamber. The chambers are often roofed with overlapping horizontal slabs forming a domed or *corbelled* roof. A low, narrow stone-lined passage leads to the chamber from the *kerb*. The bodies were usually cremated and the burials consist of the remains of more than one person at a time. Grave goods consisted of small personal items such as pins (of antler or animal bone), beads and pendants (of stone, bone or pottery) and occasionally decorated pottery bowls. Only the elite members of society were buried in these monuments; the remainder of the population would have had much simpler burials without any special ceremony. In the eastern part of Ireland decoration occurs on the structural stones (those lining the passages, the kerbstones and those in the roof) of many tombs. Such decoration, now very faint, is to be found at Baltinglass. Other passage tombs in Wicklow also occur on hilltops - a deliberate feature so that the tombs would be visible throughout the area farmed by the community who built and used them.

5 SCURLOCKSLEAP ("Seefin") Passage tomb

Fig. 2

Access: take first turn right after the Sally Gap on the Roundwood/Blessington road; proceed up along the edge of a forestry plantation to the south of Kilbride military camp. Access period about one hour.

The passage tomb is contained beneath a *cairn* measuring 26.5m in diameter and 3m in height surrounded by a continuous *kerb*. The passage is entered from the north and leads to a long chamber with smaller recesses or stalls opening in pairs off either side. The roof of the chamber is *corbelled* while that of the passage consists of horizontal slabs. There are two decorated stones (see plan) set opposite each other in the passage. The decoration consists of *lozenge motifs* formed by *pecking*. Although partly excavated in 1932 insufficient work was carried out to reach the level of the chamber floor and there were no finds.

Herity 1974, 258

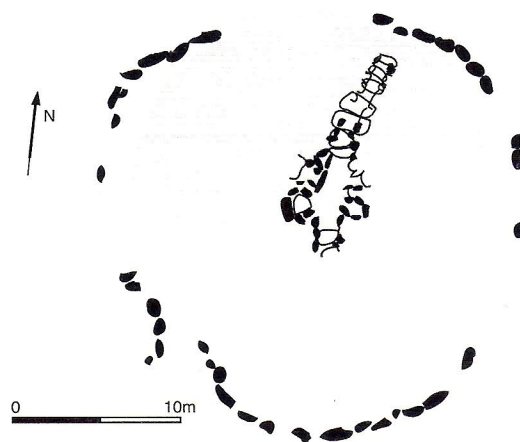
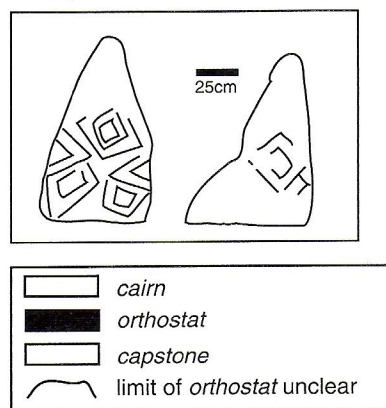


Fig. 2 Groundplan of passage tomb at Scurlocksleap ("Seefin")

Access: up through fields towards the top of the hill, turn north as the ground levels before the final summit to Rathcoran (27), although shorter climb from Baltinglass is up the steepest part of the slope. Please check for permission from Mr John Moore, Deerpark before you start your walk - details from Germaines in The Square, Baltinglass.

The summit of Baltinglass Hill is occupied by a passage tomb excavated in 1934-36. The tomb is a composite structure - the original site underwent at least two later phases of addition and alteration - but probably built within a comparatively short period around 3000 BC. The earliest part seems to be Chamber 3, a small cruciform tomb, which produced evidence for the burial of adults and children and some simple gravegoods including the heads of two pins and flint scrapers (for working leather). Chamber 2 (made up of three small chambers set side-by-side which contained adult remains and two *sherds* from a decorated pottery bowl) was then built in a circular *cairn* about 20m in diameter and edged by a *kerb* of small boulders which overlay the passage of Chamber 3. Finally, a larger *cairn* measuring 27m by 23m was built to cover a simple passage and tomb (Chamber 1). This produced a flint scraper but no burial evidence survived. The tomb had suffered considerable damage at a later stage with the construction of the central citadel of the *hillfort* (see Fig. 11), which may be, in any case, a modern feature.

Herity 1974, 259

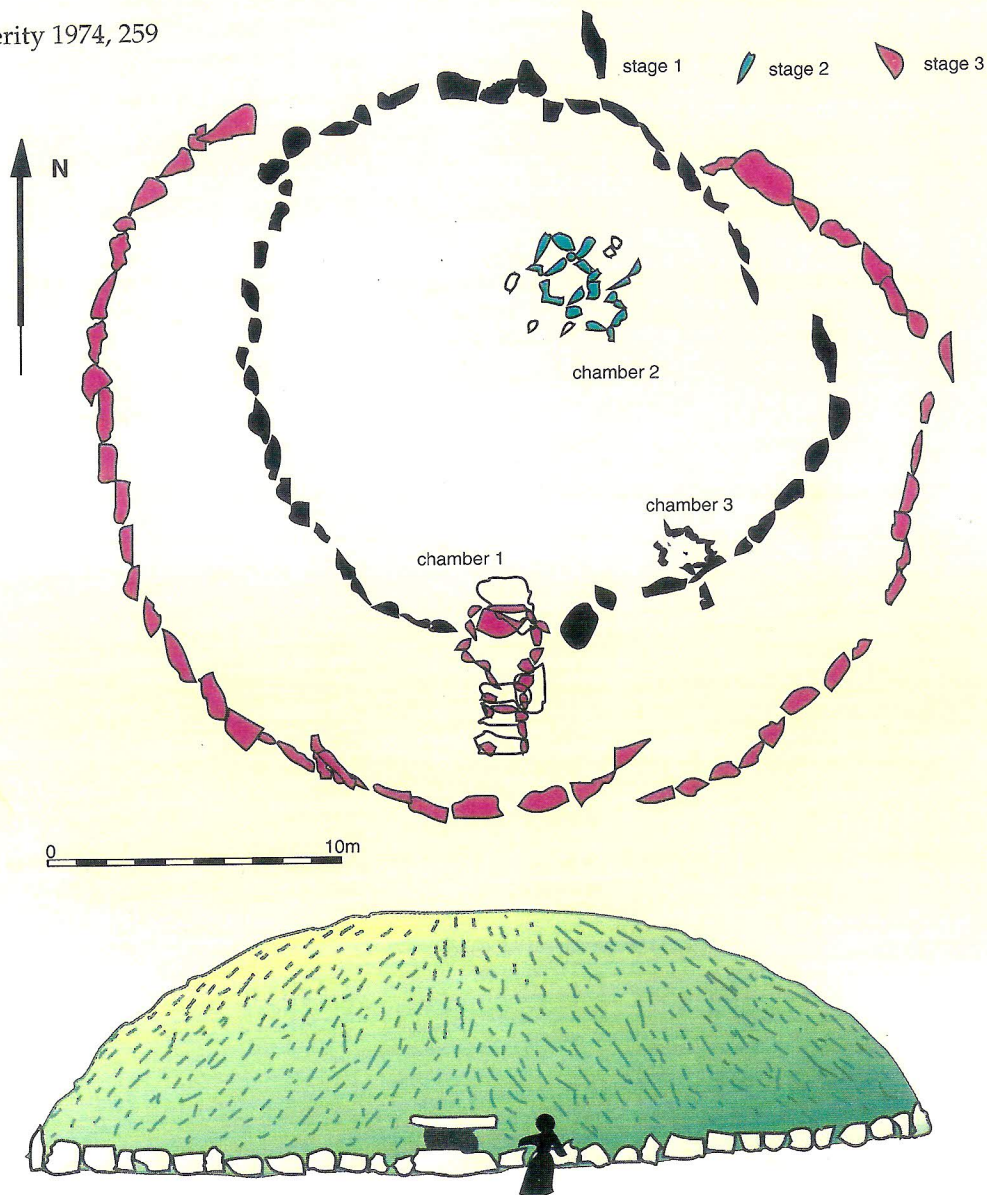


Fig. 3 Groundplan and reconstruction drawing of the passage tomb at Pinnacle ("Baltinglass Hill")

Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Burial Sites

44 MOYLISHA

Wedge tomb

Fig. 4

Wedge tombs were constructed during the Late Neolithic - Early Bronze Age period (c 2600-2100BC) and were used for collective burials. The sites are characterised by their wedge shape (narrowing and reducing in height from the front to the back). The *cairn* covers a rectangular burial chamber which is sometimes differentiated by having a small *ante chamber*, or end chamber (not present at Moylisha). Where present the latter is normally not accessible from the main chamber and may contain the first or primary burials. The tombs contained both *inhumed* and cremated remains as well as grave goods including pottery, stone tools and occasional ornaments (also of stone). Several *wedge tombs*, of which Moylisha is a good example, show evidence for re-use in the Middle Bronze Age (c 1600-1000 BC) which suggests some element of continuity in the burial traditions of the local community. A mould for making bronze spearheads came from the *cairn* and may have been deposited as part of a burial ritual of that period.

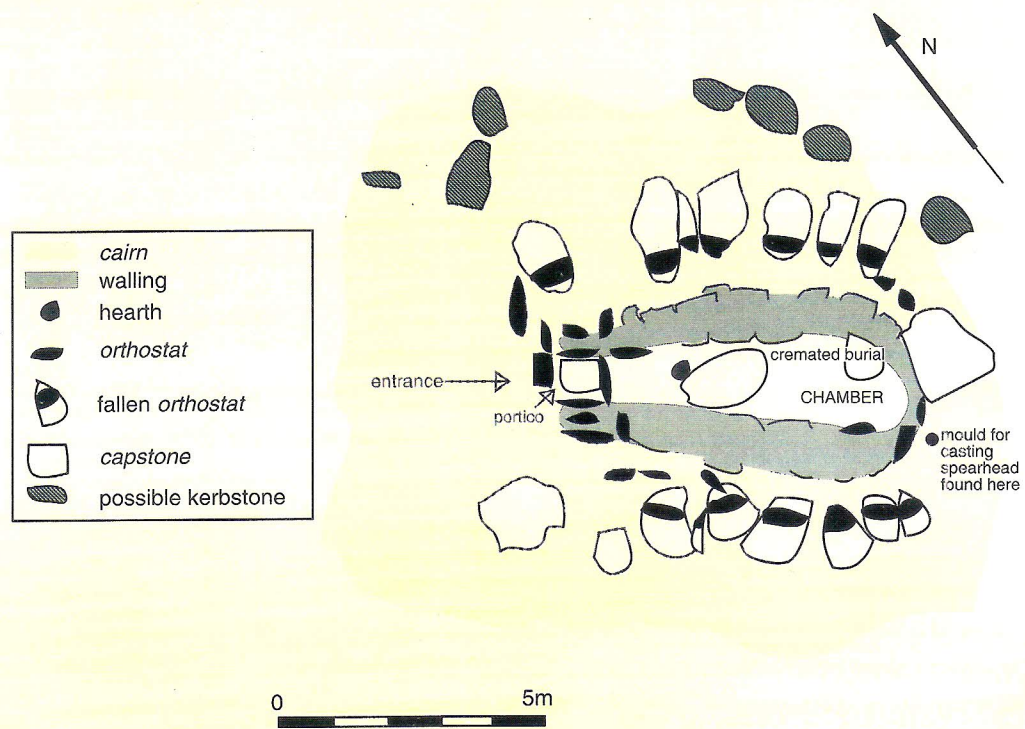


Fig. 4 Groundplan and reconstruction drawing of the wedge tomb at Moylisha

A wide variety of practices developed in the Early Bronze Age (c 2200-1600 BC) with regard to formal burial. Initially the remains of the dead were placed, either unburnt (with the body placed in a crouched position on its side) or cremated, into a small *cist* and accompanied by a pottery vessel ("*Food Vessel*") which stood upright beside the body on the floor of the grave. Gradually the practice of burying unburnt bodies was discontinued and by c 1800 BC the vast majority of burials were cremations. Around this time larger pottery vessels ("*cinerary urns*") were placed in the graves and were used as containers for the bone, usually turned upside-down over the remains. At this stage the custom of lining the graves with stone slabs to form *cists* began to die out and the burials were placed into simple pits. Other grave goods were occasionally deposited and these included bronze knives and daggers, flint tools, stone *maceheads* and ornaments of pottery, stone or *faience* (a glass-like substance). The graves often occur singly, *i.e.* in isolation from the next nearest burial, and while most graves contain the remains of only one person 30-40% of the burials were of two or more (including some of five or more) individuals. Many burials were, however, put into cemeteries which contained between three and sixty or more graves. The cemeteries were either unmarked, *i.e.* there was apparently no above ground marker for the graves, or in *mounds* (or *cairns*). In the latter cases it is often possible to determine which are the earliest and which are the later graves.

At Carrig, Co. Wicklow (Fig. 5) a circular *cairn* (17m in diameter) was excavated (by Eoin Grogan and Eamon Kelly of the National Museum of Ireland) following its discovery by the owner in the course of land improvement work. The *cairn* had become denuded before the beginning of this century but the essential elements and the burials which it covered remained largely undisturbed. The *cairn* covered several burials which were deposited in the period between 2000 and 1000 BC and the evidence suggests that the same community or family lived in the area during this period and this was their burial ground. Other *cairns* or *mounds* in the area may have been used by the same group.

The earliest burials were in *cists* but later on simple pits or graves were used. The bodies were all cremated; at first a considerable effort was made to extract the burnt bones from the *funerary* pyre but later on part of the pyre was deliberately placed in the grave with the remains of the dead. Some of the burials were of individual people, a custom which was common in the Bronze Age, but others contain the remains of two or more individuals indicating the possibility that funerals took place at special times of the year and that closely related people who had died in the period since the last *funerary* occasion were buried together. On the other hand graves, such as one in *Cist D* at Carrig, suggest tragedies where several members of the same family died at the same time, through accident or more probably disease, and were interred in a single ceremony. Two of the *cists* (C and D) contained several separate burials some of them consisting of the remains of more than one individual (see Fig. 5). It appears that the early burials were carefully placed into the *cists* which must have been marked in some manner on the surface of the *cairn*; some of the later burials caused damage to the *cists* indicating that their exact location under the *cairn* was no longer known. The latest burials, belonging to the Late Bronze Age, were contained in coarse domestic pots or were simply accompanied by fragments of pottery.

Early Bronze Age Burials

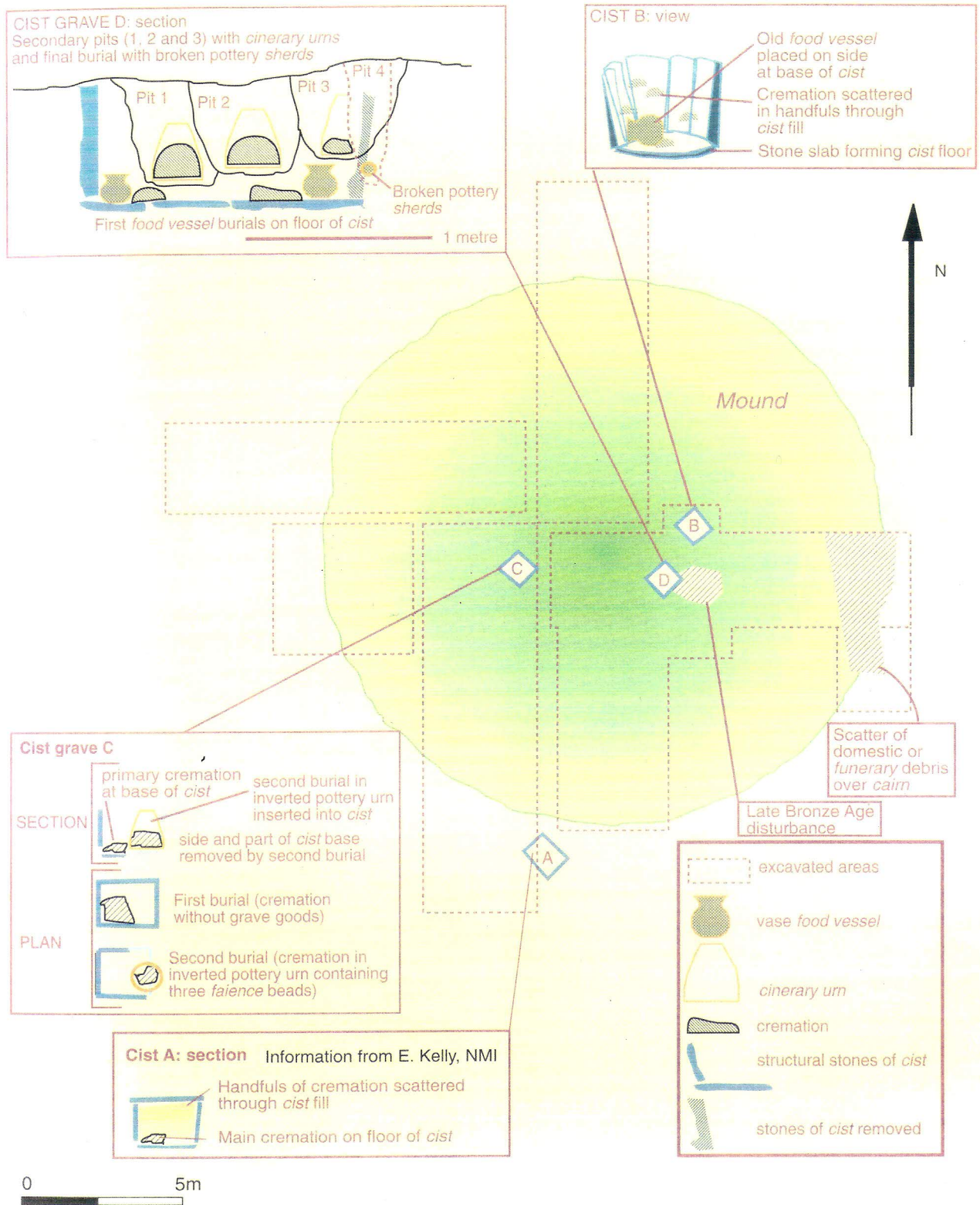


Fig. 5 Groundplan and sections of the Early Bronze Age cemetery cairn at Carrig

Early Bronze Age Burials

8 BALLYREMON COMMONS

Barrow

Fig. 6

Access: located at Calary, Kilmacanogue on the Roundwood/Kilmacanogue road. Access adjacent to Calary School on the opposite side of the road.

This type of burial monument is called a Bowl Barrow and is of Bronze Age date (c 2100-1500 BC). A roughly circular *mound* (diameter c 12m and about 1.50m high) is surrounded by a *ditch* (2.50-5m wide and 1m deep) and an external *bank* (2.50 - 4m wide and 0.20 - 0.95m high). The site has been truncated on the northern side by a field boundary. The *barrow* is about 25m in maximum diameter. It is on a gentle east facing slope at an altitude of about 300m.

Immediately to the north-east of the *barrow* is a deserted eighteenth century AD settlement consisting of three rectangular houses, small fields and enclosure (the access track cuts across the centre of the complex). Prominent cultivation ridges survive both in the small fields and on open land on the hillslope above (*i.e.* to the west).

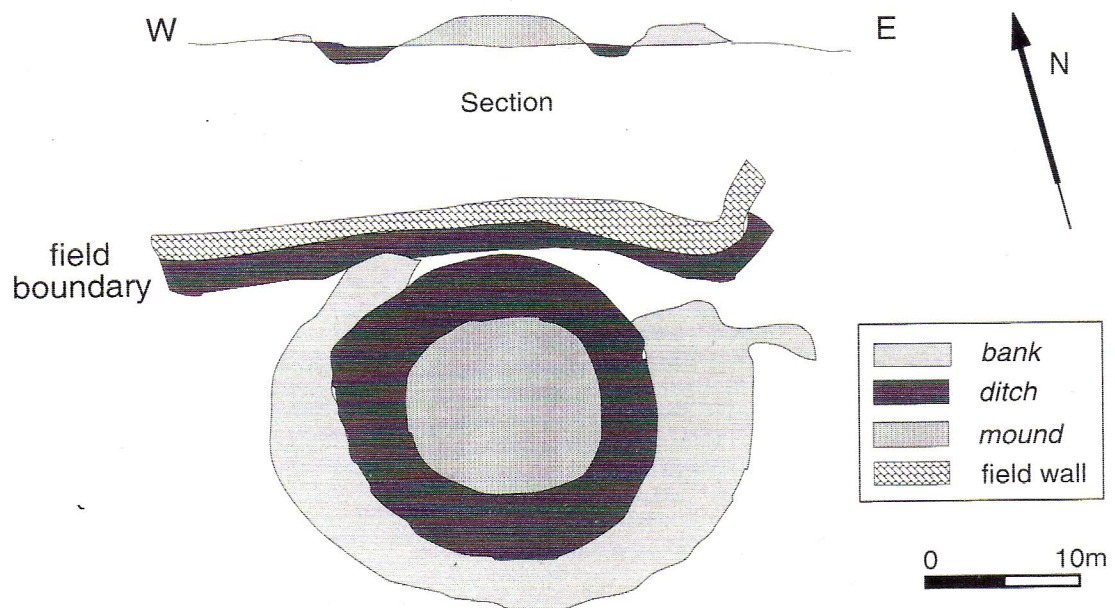


Fig. 6 Groundplan of Ballyremon barrow

Ceremonial circles

These sites were built in the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age period (c 2600-1800 BC). Only a small number of sites are known of which three (Athgreany 15, Castleruddery Lower 19 and Booleycarrigeen - none of these three have been excavated) are in Wicklow. The sites generally consist of a continuous ring of large stones with an earthen *bank* outside the ring and resting against it. A well-defined entrance, usually facing east or west, sometimes also lined with large stones is a prominent feature. Occasionally, as at Athgreany, there is a single standing stone associated with the circle but situated outside the monument itself. The *ceremonial circles* (or embanked stone circles as they are sometimes called), are closely related to free standing stone circles, such as those that occur in Cork and Kerry, as well as the very large enclosures defined by earthen *banks* (a major group of these occur in the Boyne Valley, Co Meath). The sites were used for community ceremonies whose timing may have been guided by specific solar events (such as the rising or setting sun on particular days of the year) - hence the orientation of the entrances. Other activity may have been associated with burial - fragmentary human bone is sometimes found on these sites suggesting that the dead were exposed on the ground within the circle for some time before they were provided with a final formal burial.

15 ATHGREANY ('The Piper's Stones') Ceremonial circle

Fig. 7

Access: located off the Blessington/Baltinglass road 13 km from Blessington (signposted). Through gate from road and up rough path to top of small ridge (c 300m).

Disturbed remains of a circle of granite blocks (internal diameter 23m) at the high north end of a small steep-sided ridge. There are sixteen stones in the area of the site of which only five are *in situ*; of the others five are lying flat but probably close to their original position, three are clearly displaced while the remaining two are too small to have been original components. The *in situ* stones vary in height from 1.30m to 1.92m and while the pair on the north-east side are not the highest stones in the circle their position, facing the outlier ('The Piper') 40m further to the north-east, suggests that they may mark the entrance. The low bank visible between the stones on the south-east side may not be an original feature. The outlier occurs downslope of the site and is a large glacial erratic (1.95m high, c 2.90m wide). While it is a natural feature there is no reason to believe that it did not form an integral part of the site. Running across the top of the stone at right-angles are two well-defined grooves and a similar curved groove occurs on what was the top of a *prostrate* stone on the south-east side of the circle. It is clear that these are not entirely natural. Evidence of the effort put into the destruction of the site occurs in the form of deep wedge marks across the upper surface of two of the stones.

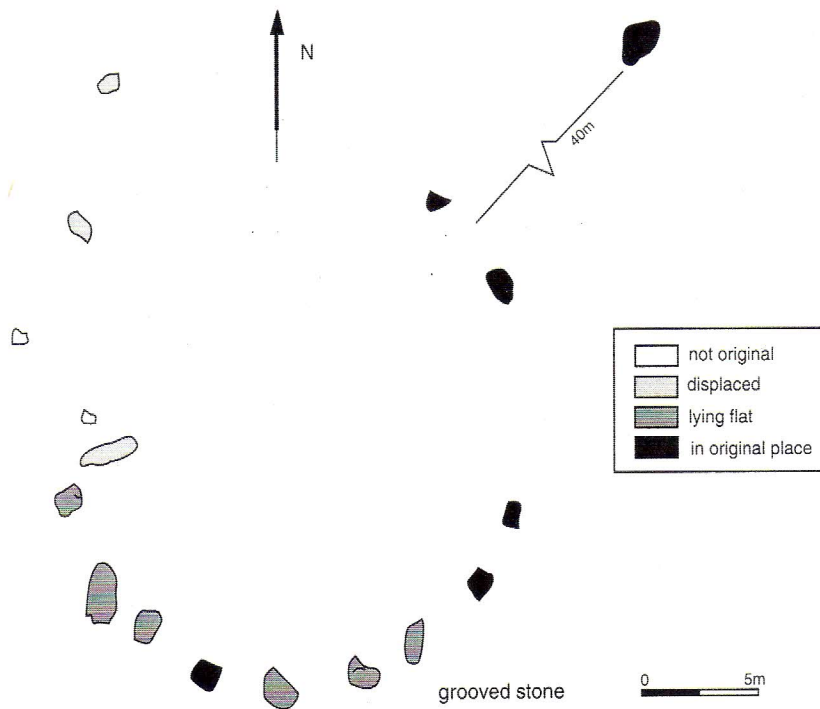


Fig. 7 Groundplan of the ceremonial circle at Athgreany ('The Piper's Stones')

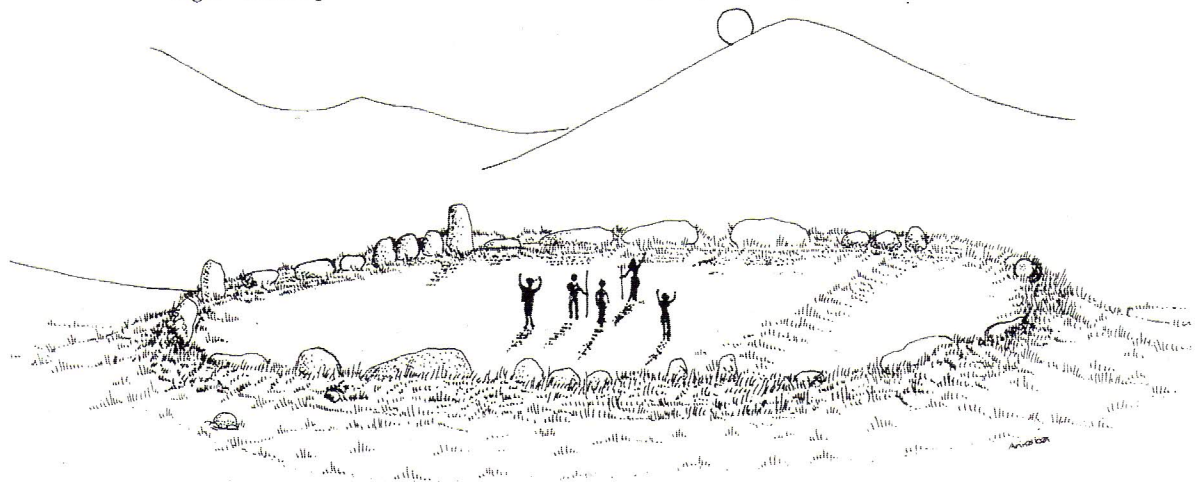


Fig. 8a Conjectural reconstruction of the ceremonial circle at Castleruddery (Annaba Kilfeather)

Early Bronze Age Burials

19 CASTLERUDDERY LOWER Ceremonial circle Figs. 8a (see page 13) and 8b

Access: in Castleruddery (signposted). Through gate and along field boundary into next field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

The site consists of an inner circle which was originally a contiguous circle (diameter 30m) of large boulders some standing upright and others erected on their long axis. The circle is largely intact on the northern side but is less well preserved to the south. It consists of 29 substantial stones and a number of smaller fragments while some loose boulders occur in the interior which is otherwise featureless. Wedge marks and bore holes in several stones indicate an attempt to deliberately destroy the site, probably in the nineteenth century. The entrance (1.30m wide) appears to be between two exceptionally large quartz boulders on the eastern side. Abutting onto the outer face of the circle is an earthen *bank* (diameter 40m) the terminals or ends of which encompass the quartz boulders of the entrance. Some boulders along the outer edge of the *bank* may indicate an outer *revetment* or retaining wall. To the east (15.80m) of the entrance is a single upright stone. A field *bank* cuts across the outer edge of the *bank* on the south side.

The site occurs centrally within a well defined *cropmark* enclosure (identified from aerial photography and not visible on the ground) defined by a *ditch* (c 4-5m wide). Between this and the earthen *bank* is a narrower *cropmark* indicating a trench or narrow *ditch* (diameter c 50m). The site is on a natural rise with gentle slopes to south, west and east and overlooking the River Slaney (250m to the south).

Leask 1945, 266-7

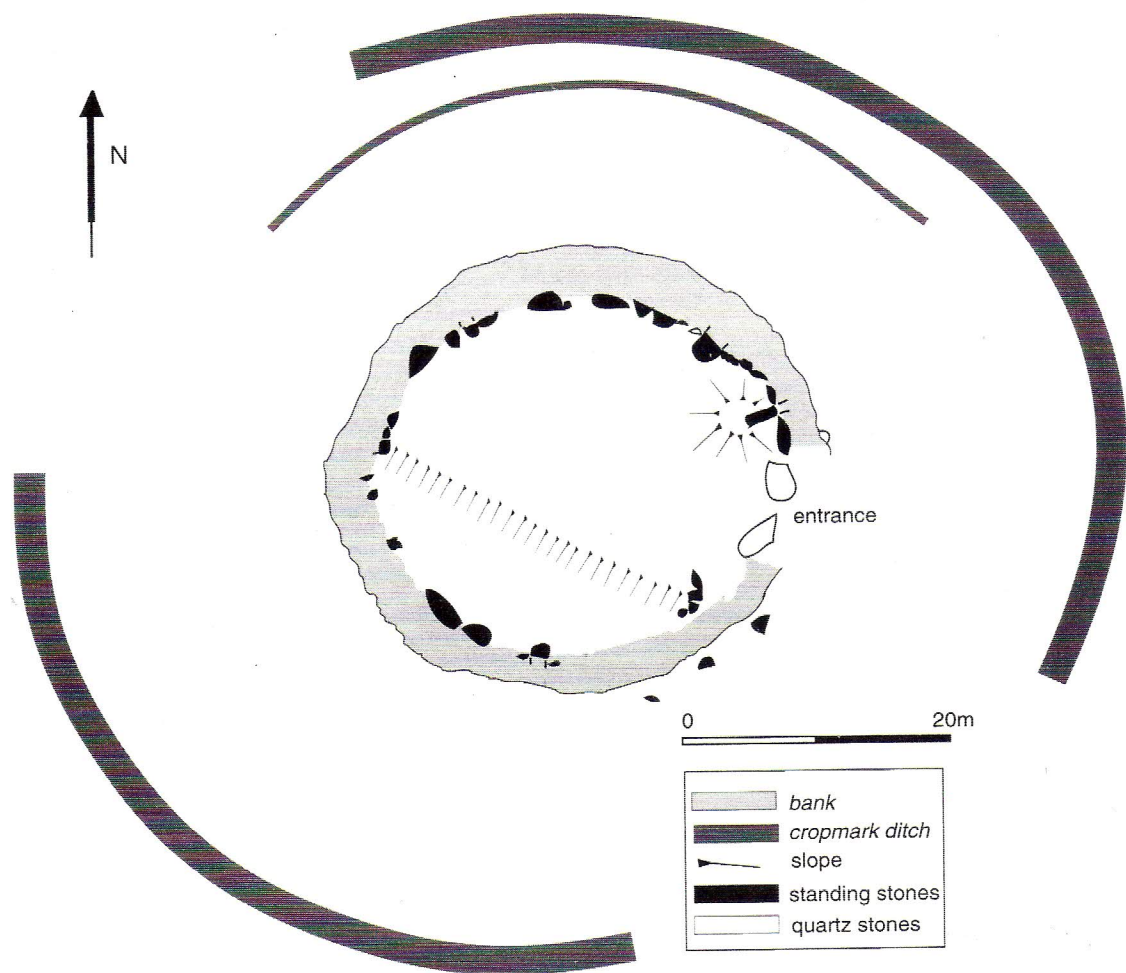


Fig. 8b Groundplan of the ceremonial circle at Castleruddery

Hillforts

Large hilltop enclosures appear to have been built in Ireland from the end of the Late Bronze Age (c 600 BC) but the majority of the 80 or so in Ireland date to the Iron Age (c 300 BC to c 500 AD). While the massive *ramparts* (the surrounding *banks* and *ditches*) imply a defensive role most do not seem to have had well-defended entrances and, unlike their counterparts in Britain and on the European continent, few Irish *hillforts* have produced evidence for extensive permanent settlements. It is probable that the sites had a variety of functions including habitation; many sites provided a special place for ritual or religious ceremony and they would have been an important focus for the community at other times. The early historical documents certainly indicate that they were the place of gathering of the tribal society at the time for fairs, religious ceremonies and probably social occasions such as the proclamation or inauguration of the local Rí or king.

Several *hillforts* have been identified in Wicklow and an impressive group exists in the Baltinglass area. Among these are the two sites - Rathcoran ("Coran's Fort" or possibly "The Fort of The Cairn", see 27) and Rathnagree (26, "The King's Fort") - on Baltinglass Hill itself, another to the north at Brusselstown (24) which extends to the west to incorporate Spinans Hill (25). The enclosure of the last two sites by a single *rampart* makes this the largest *hillfort* in Ireland. To the west, within 5km of Baltinglass, there are substantial sites at Tinoranhill and Hughstown, Co. Kildare.

24 BRUSSELSTOWN/SPINANS HILL Hillfort/hut sites

Fig. 9

Access: the site occupies the whole of the Spinans Hill - Brusselstown hilltop.

The summit of Brusselstown Hill is enclosed by a massive, but now partly collapsed, stone *rampart* between 5m and 12m in width and surviving up to 2m in height. The *rampart* encloses an area measuring about 300m by 200m (c 5 hectares). The interior rises towards a rocky summit towards the northern side. The site contains some slight evidence for hut platforms. The original entrance has not been located. About 1.5km to the north-west the summit of Spinans Hill is also surrounded by a peat covered *bank* which encloses an oval area measuring c 550m by 320m. A small group of *cairns* (Site 25, page 16) occurs on the hilltop.

At a lower level, just above the 300m contour, another, outer, *rampart* has recently been identified (Condit 1992). In the best preserved areas, on the eastern and western flanks of the hill, this *rampart* is made-up of a *ditch* with an inner and outer *bank* of stone. This encircles not only Brusselstown but also Spinans Hill, an area measuring about 1500m by 350-500m (c 130 hectares) making it by far the largest *hillfort* in Ireland. It is clear these defensive features form a complex structure which was altered and added to over time. The earliest phase appears to be represented by a *hillfort* on Brusselstown enclosed by two *ramparts*. At a later stage this was greatly enlarged to incorporate the inner enclosure on Spinans Hill by extending the outer *rampart* around the whole summit of the hilltop. The outer defences of Brusselstown, on the western and southern sides, were thus made redundant and fell into neglect (see Fig. 9).

A group of hut sites and hut platforms (levelled areas on which small houses were constructed) occur along the gentler south-eastern slopes of Brusselstown and between the two *ramparts* of the *hillfort*. These vary in diameter from about 6m to 10m and suggest a cluster of houses within the *hillfort*. There is no dating evidence and they could be later (or indeed earlier) than the *hillfort* itself but it is possible that they represent contemporary

The Iron Age

occupation within the defences. Other settlement evidence, in the form of domestic enclosures, hut sites and fields, have been identified on the northern slope on the hill immediately outside the defences.

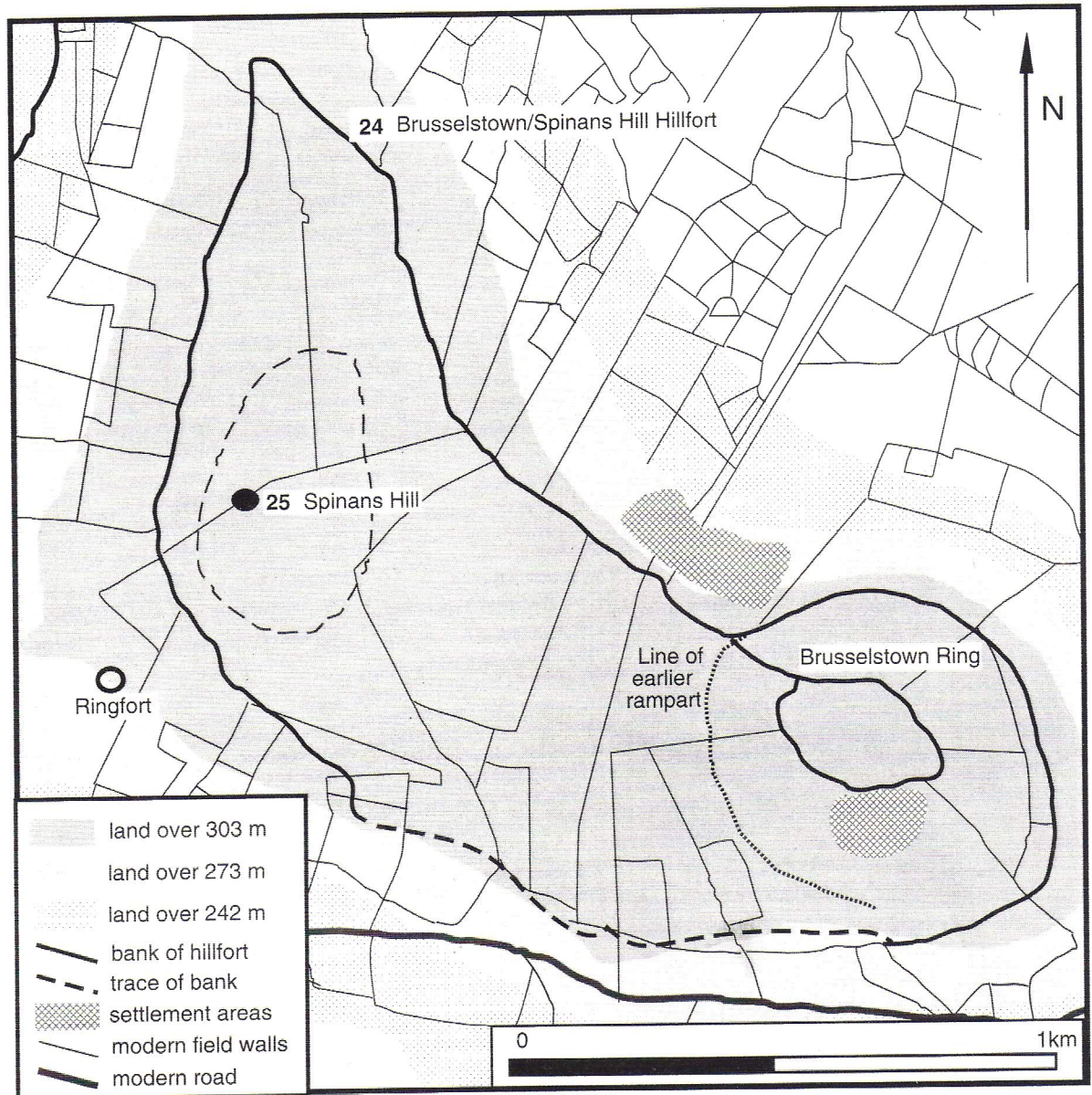


Fig. 9 Plan of the hillfort complex at Brusselstown/Spinans Hill

25 SPINANS HILL

Cairns

Fig. 9

Access: see Site 24, page 15.

Near the summit of Spinans Hill is a small group of prehistoric burial *cairns*. The central, and largest of these (diameter 27m) is on the north-north west edge of the hilltop. There are five other smaller examples (4.50-8m in diameter) nearby, four to the north (the northernmost is 130m away) and one immediately to the south. Some of the *cairns*, including the largest, contain evidence for *cists* within which burials (now apparently disturbed or removed) would have been placed. Although there is no indication for the date of the *cairns* they may belong to the Bronze or Iron Age. The occurrence of earlier burial monuments within *hillforts* is quite common; examples include Rathcoran (Baltinglass Hill, Site 28, page 8), Tara, Co. Meath and Freestone Hill, Co. Kilkenny. The presence of earlier prehistoric burials appears to have enhanced the hilltops in the eyes of the builders of the *hillforts* probably giving them a sense of historical control over the landscape.

Access: up through fields towards the top of the hill, turn north as the ground levels before the final summit to Rathcoran (Site 27); although shorter climb from Baltinglass is up the steepest part of the slope. Please check for permission before you start your walk from Mr John Moore, Deerpark - details from Germaines in The Square, Baltinglass.

The hillfort is on a slight knoll on the lower north-west spur of Baltinglass Hill and encloses 5 hectares. There are steep downhill slopes to the west (overlooking the River Slaney) and gentler slopes to the north and east. The site consists of a *trivallate* enclosure (maximum dimensions c 250m north-west to south-east by c 250m north-east to south-west). An inner oval circle (c 100m north-west to south-east by c 75m north-east to south-west) is defined by an irregular stone *bank*, best preserved on north-east side where it is 5m wide. The *bank* is set along the perimeter of a largely natural drop in the ground level. There is no indication of an entrance or internal features. The middle enclosure (c 170m north-west to south-east by 150m north-east to south-west) is encircled by a *rampart* made up of a *bank* of stone and earth (c 7m wide and 1.70-2.50m high) with an external *ditch* (3.50-5m wide and 1m deep) and an outer *bank* (2m wide and 1m high). There is a possible entrance in the form of a 2m wide gap on the north side. The outermost enclosure has a stone and earth *bank* (6-7m wide and up to 1m high) identifiable within the forestry on the east side and as a *cropmark* on north-west and south to south-east sides. The site is overlooked by 'Rathcoran' hillfort (Site 27, page 18) c 500m to the south-east. Rathnagree is a unique site in Ireland in that it is on a hill slope rather than enclosing the summit. It is probably of the same date as Rathcoran and may have had an ancillary defensive function.

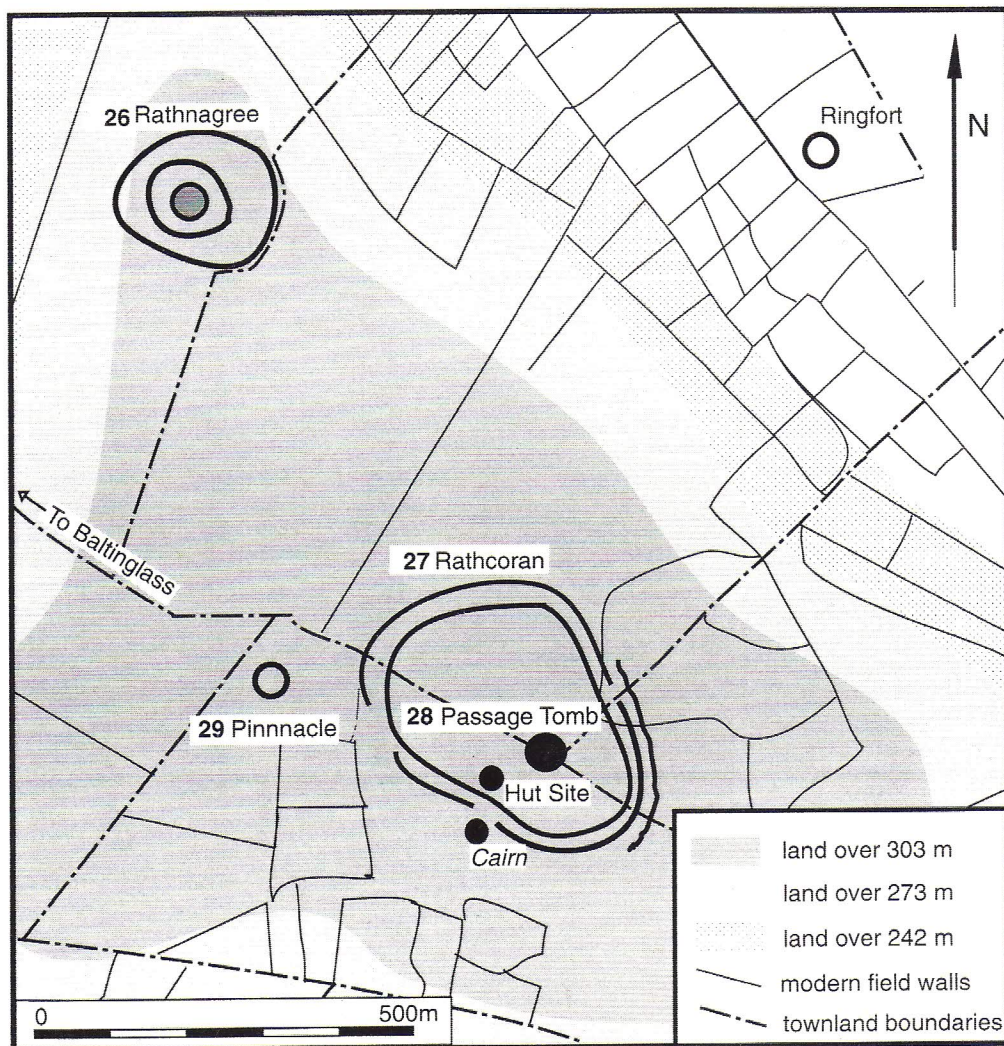


Fig. 10 Plan of Baltinglass Hill

Access: up through fields to the top of the hill; although shorter climb from Baltinglass is up the steepest part of the slope. Please check for permission before you start your walk from Mr John Moore, Deerpark - details from Germaines in The Square, Baltinglass.

Rathcoran is on the summit of Baltinglass Hill and is defined by two *ramparts* which enclose about ten hectares of the hilltop. The inner consists of a massive *bank* of stone, up to 16m wide and 4m high, with a wide outer *ditch*; the outer *rampart*, there does not appear to be a *ditch*, is of similar size to the inner one. On the north-east side of the hill the *banks* are set close to each other and form an integrated defensive feature but they are more widely spaced on the west and north-west sides where a series of radial quarry *ditches* (see Fig. 11) were dug to provide the material for both *banks*. From the inside of the *ramparts* the hill slopes steeply upwards to the summit 376m (1234'). On the south-eastern slopes is part of a discontinuous third *rampart*. While this may have been a complete circuit of the hilltop it is possible that it formed part of a defensive mechanism associated with one of the entrances. Because of the slope and the nature of the hill it is not possible to keep the whole of the perimeter in view from the summit - which would have been a major handicap in organising the defence of the *hillfort*. The inner stone enclosure (see Fig. 11) appears to be a modern feature probably built of spoil from the excavation of the passage tomb (Site 28, page 8) which occupies the summit.

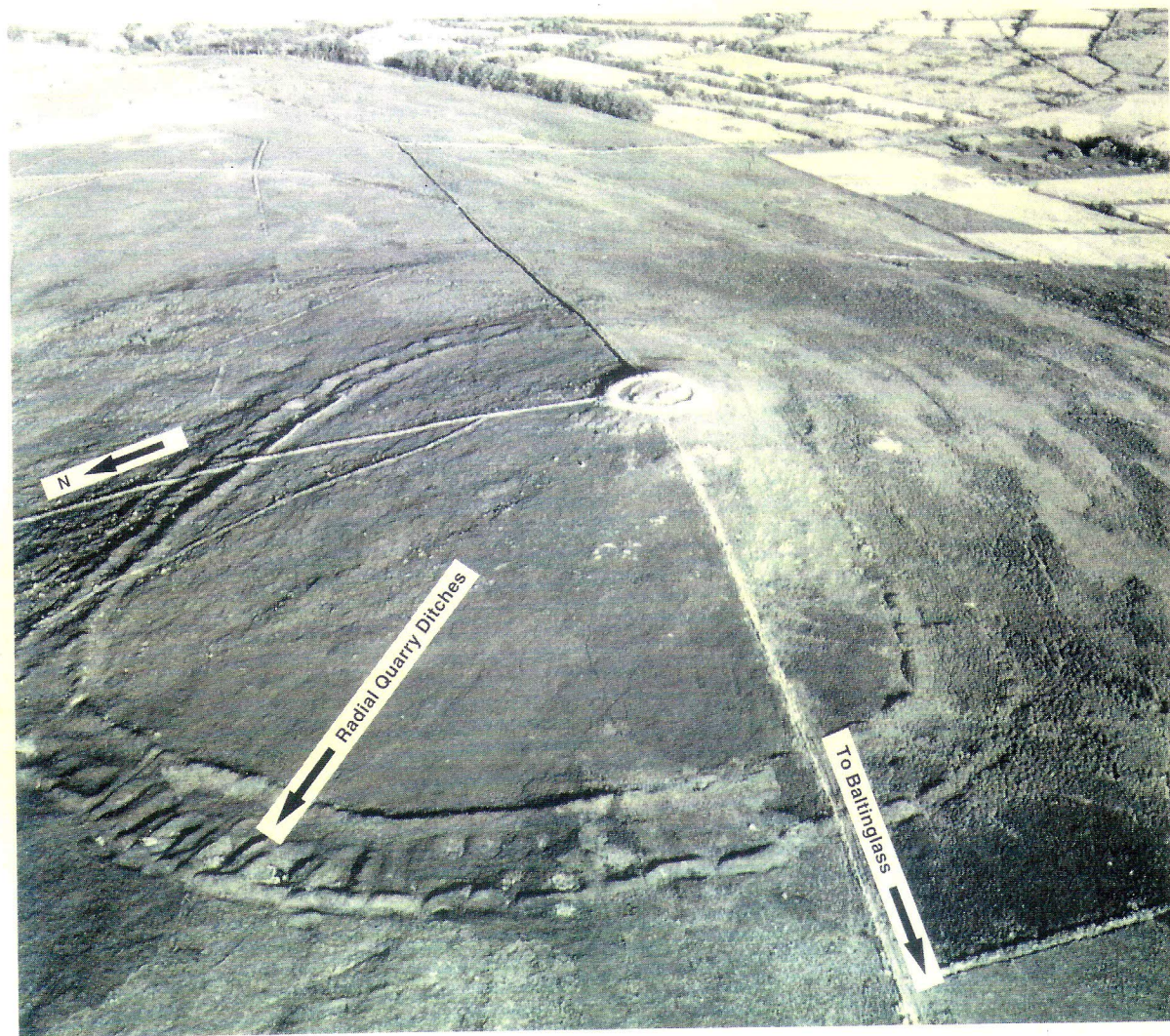


Fig. 11 Aerial photograph of the hillfort on Baltinglass Hill (Cambridge University)

Access: follow the signpost to the right on the Shillelagh/Tullow road. Located at Rath on the Rath/Tullow road (signposted). Through gate (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out) and across field.

Circular site on the edge of a ridge enclosing about 7.30 hectares with extensive panoramic views. There are four *ramparts* on the hilltop at present but excavation (Raftery 1973) has shown that the innermost one, a massive stone *bank*, was added, possibly as a domestic site of *ringfort* type, in the later medieval period (thirteenth/fourteenth centuries AD). The second and third *ramparts* are set close together and consist of substantial *banks* of stone surviving up to 5m in height. The area within these measures 120m (from north to south) by 140m (east to west). An area averaging 50m in width separates these from the outer line of defence, an earth and stone *bank* which has in part been removed but survives within some of the surrounding field boundaries.

The excavations, which concentrated on the central part of the site (Fig. 12), revealed important evidence for Late Bronze Age activity (dating to about 800 BC) in the form of a large circular house and an extensive workshop area for casting large quantities of bronze weapons and some tools. Other finds included some glass and gold beads, *querns* for grinding corn and large amounts of coarse domestic pottery. The house stood within a circular enclosure (diameter 35m) defined by a *ditch*. Close to the enclosure was a burial site which produced the cremated remains of three people.

It is clear that an important family or small community lived on the hilltop at Rathgall towards the end of the Bronze Age. The quantity of metalworking suggests that they were producing more than their own requirements and the surplus was used to exchange for raw materials and other products. It appears that farming was still an important activity of the community. What is less certain is the question of the date of the *hillfort* itself since it is not proven that the house, workshop and burials date to the same period as the defensive *ramparts*. However, while a small number of Iron Age artefacts were found on the site, as well as evidence for iron working, the meagre quantity suggests that it was the Late Bronze Age inhabitants who fortified the hilltop.



Fig. 12 Aerial photograph of the hillfort at Rathgall (Leo Swan)

Ringforts

An enclosed dwelling or farmstead dating mainly to the period c 500-1200 AD. The sites are usually circular and range in diameter from as little as 15m to as much as 60m. The greatest number cluster around 30m. A level central area was defended by an earthen or earth and stone *bank* (stone walls are more common in parts of the west of Ireland) often with an outer *ditch* from which material for the *bank* was quarried. In this work the term 'bank' is used to refer to a linear pile or ridge of earth used to enclose a *ringfort*, for example; the term 'ditch' describes a substantial dug trench often the source of the material for a *bank*. The *bank* may have been surmounted by a timber palisade or a fence (perhaps utilising thorn bushes) and faced with stone or timber. The entrance was usually a simple gap in the *bank* with a corresponding *causeway* across the *ditch*. Evidence for stout gates has come from some excavated sites. The sites are often located at a break (that is at a point where the slope becomes relatively level) in a south to west facing slope. Within the defences stood a house or houses. In the early stages these were mainly circular, 6-7m in diameter, and built of woven hazel rods and having a conical thatched roof. Gradually rectangular houses, sometimes with stone walls or stone foundations, became more common. The *ringforts* were built and occupied by the elite, land-owning classes but the variation in the size and strength of the sites (and, when excavated, in the wealth of material associated with the occupants) indicates that a considerable range of social standing is represented by the *ringforts* as a whole. The inhabitants practised mixed farming, raising cattle, pigs and sheep as well as growing crops such as wheat and barley. The landscape, at least in the immediate area around the homestead, was divided into fields.

Most of the sites in Wicklow have suffered considerable erosion and occasionally damage and the *banks* and, where they occur, the *ditches* are much less impressive than they were when the sites were built and occupied. Often the *banks* survive to less than one-third of their original height and the *ditches* are often visible only as a slight depression surrounding the *bank*. Entrance gaps usually survive but of course there is no trace of the timber gates or other defences. Additional gaps have sometimes been cut to facilitate the movement of cattle in modern times.

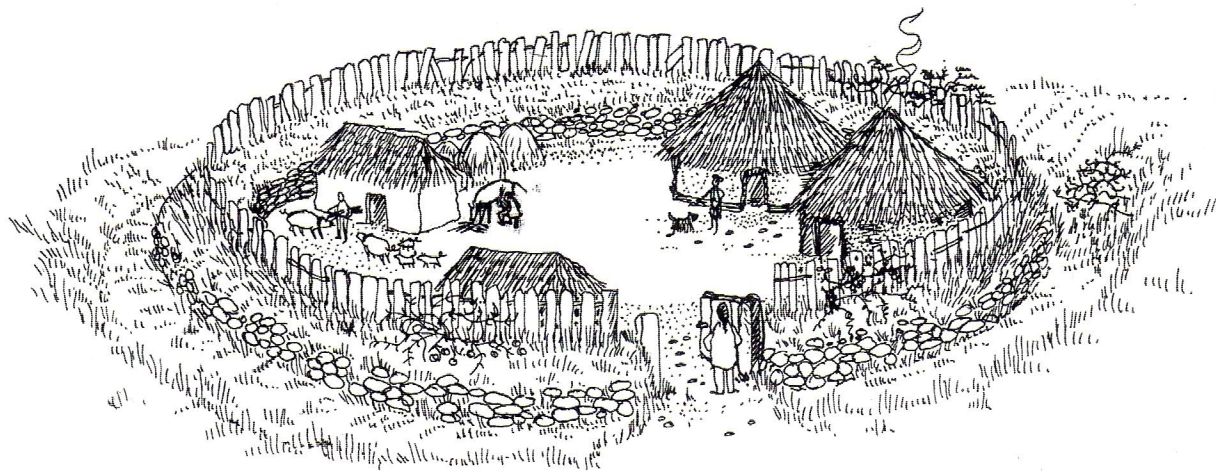


Fig. 13 Conjectural reconstruction of a ringfort (Annaba Kilfeather)

16 DRUMREAGH

Ringfort

Access: up forestry track for about 600m, the site is on the left at a sharp left hand bend.

The site consists of an earthen *bank* surviving to a height of 1.50m surrounding a level circular area. Outside the *bank* is a *ditch* which provided the material for the *bank* as well as forming an outer line of protection. There is no visible evidence for the house or other structures which would have stood within the *ringfort*. The site is prominently positioned on the eastern side of a steep sided glacial ravine ('Hollywood Glen') which provided an additional element of defence.

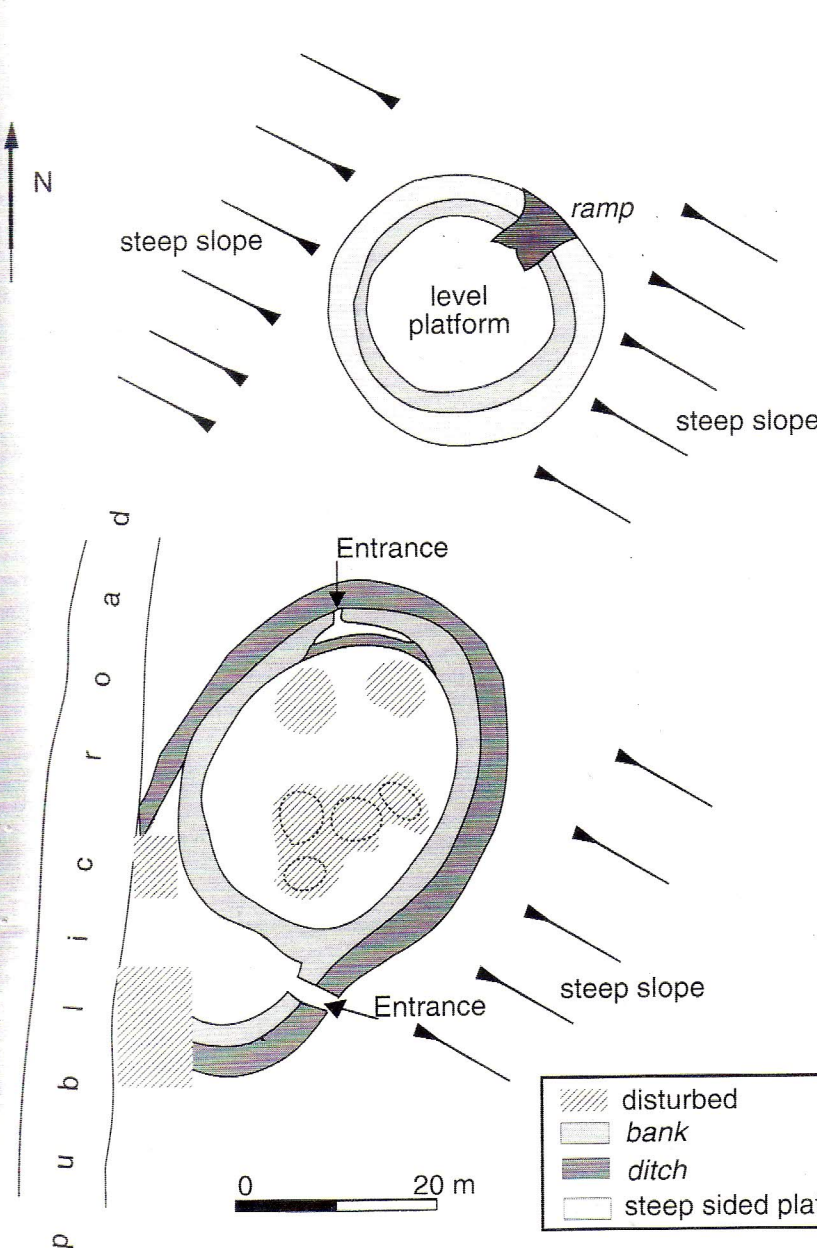
The ravine, which is also of considerable interest, was caused by the sudden release of huge quantities of glacial melt-water which had become trapped at the end of the last Ice Age.

17 KILBAYLET LOWER

Ringforts

Fig. 14

Access: through gate into field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).



Two closely spaced *ringforts*. The first is a circular *platform fort* set on an artificial flat-topped *mound* and defended by a now very denuded *bank* of earth. The summit is 21m in diameter. The entrance was by means of a *ramp* (still visible) on the north-east side leading through an entrance gap in the *bank*. There was no *ditch*, the height of the platform giving additional security to the site.

The second *ringfort*, 30m to the south-west, is oval (measuring 35m by 25m) and was also set on a slight platform about 1m high. The site was defended by both a *bank* and an external *ditch* with the entrance at the north side. The interior of the fort contains several large hollows probably a result of quarrying in the last century. An unusual feature of this site is the attachment of an annex or outer enclosure on the southern side. This may have been used to corral animals or for additional buildings associated with agriculture or craft working. The entrance to the annex is on the eastern side.

Fig. 14 Groundplan of the ringforts at Kilbaylet Lower

Access: up forestry track for about 500m. As the track bends away sharply to the right follow the line of the track up the slope for about 100m.

Circular *ringfort* (maximum external diameter 41m) defined by an earthen *bank*, an external flat bottomed *ditch* and an outer lower *bank* on the downslope (northern, western and southern) sides. The entrance consists of gaps in both of the *banks* and a *causeway* across *ditch* on the east; three other gaps appear to be modern. On the western side a narrow *ditch* and low gapped *bank* within the *ringfort* are probably relatively modern features. There are no other internal features. The site is on level ground at a break in a steeper south to south-east facing slope.

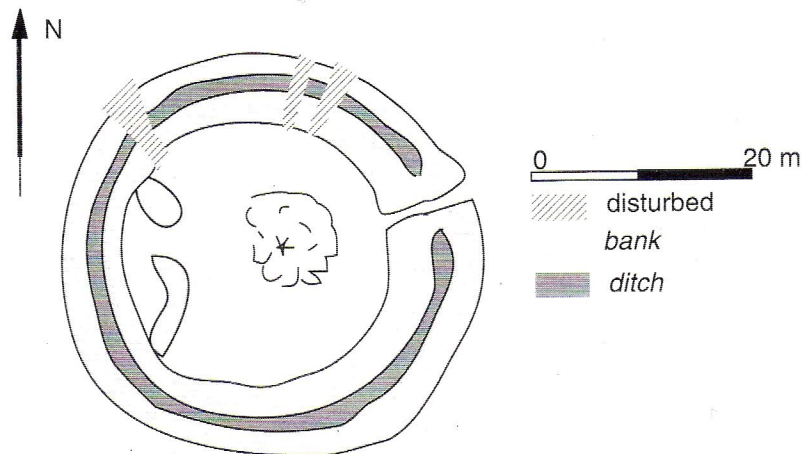


Fig. 15 Groundplan of the ringfort at Deerpark

Access: the site is on the right about 50m from the track on level ground below the final rise to the summit of Baltinglass Hill. See Site 26, page 17.

Small circular *ringfort* with a now much denuded earthen *bank* partly engulfed in peat. This type of siting, at a break in a west facing slope, is typical of *ringforts* and provided not just a level place to build but also a measure of shelter, a reasonably sunny aspect and a measure of defence with attackers having to negotiate steeper slopes on the approach to the site.

Beside the road. Access: through gate into field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

Circular *ringfort* (diameter 33m) with a *bank* of stony earth and small stones which has a single entrance on the south-east side. There is slight evidence for an outer *ditch* in the form of a short segment on the north-west side. At this point the outer part of the *bank* has a near vertical facing in the form of a dry-stone wall. This is probably a later addition to the site when this part of the perimeter was incorporated into a field boundary. The site is on a gentle south to south-east facing slope.

Access: through gate (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out) across two fields to the bottom of the slope. Entry is from the Ballyconnell - Liscolman road.

Circular *ringfort* with three lines of defence ('*trivallate*' *ringfort*, maximum external diameter 74.50m). The inner enclosure (diameter 35m) is encircled by an earthen *bank* and an external *ditch*. Immediately outside this is another *bank*, an outer *ditch* and finally another *bank*. The outermost *bank* and *ditch* are indicated only by differential growth (at certain times of the year their outline is indicated by a difference in the growth rate and colour of the grass) except on the southern side where the *bank* survives as a very low feature. The entrance to the *ringfort* is on the western side and consists of a funnel-shaped opening widening from the inner (1m wide) to the outer *bank* (2.40m wide) with a *causeway* across inner *ditch*. A substantial field boundary cuts across the eastern side of the site which is in a natural gently sloped hollow on the northern edge of stream.

Only a few *ringforts* with more than one line of defence occur in Wicklow although they are not uncommon elsewhere in the country. As they require considerably more effort to construct than the more common sites with a single defensive *rampart* ('*univallate*' *ringforts*) they probably belonged to wealthier and more important families, perhaps local chieftains. However, in the Donard area of Wicklow several *ringforts* with two lines of defence occur within a small area and indicate a local tradition of more elaborate *ringfort* construction.

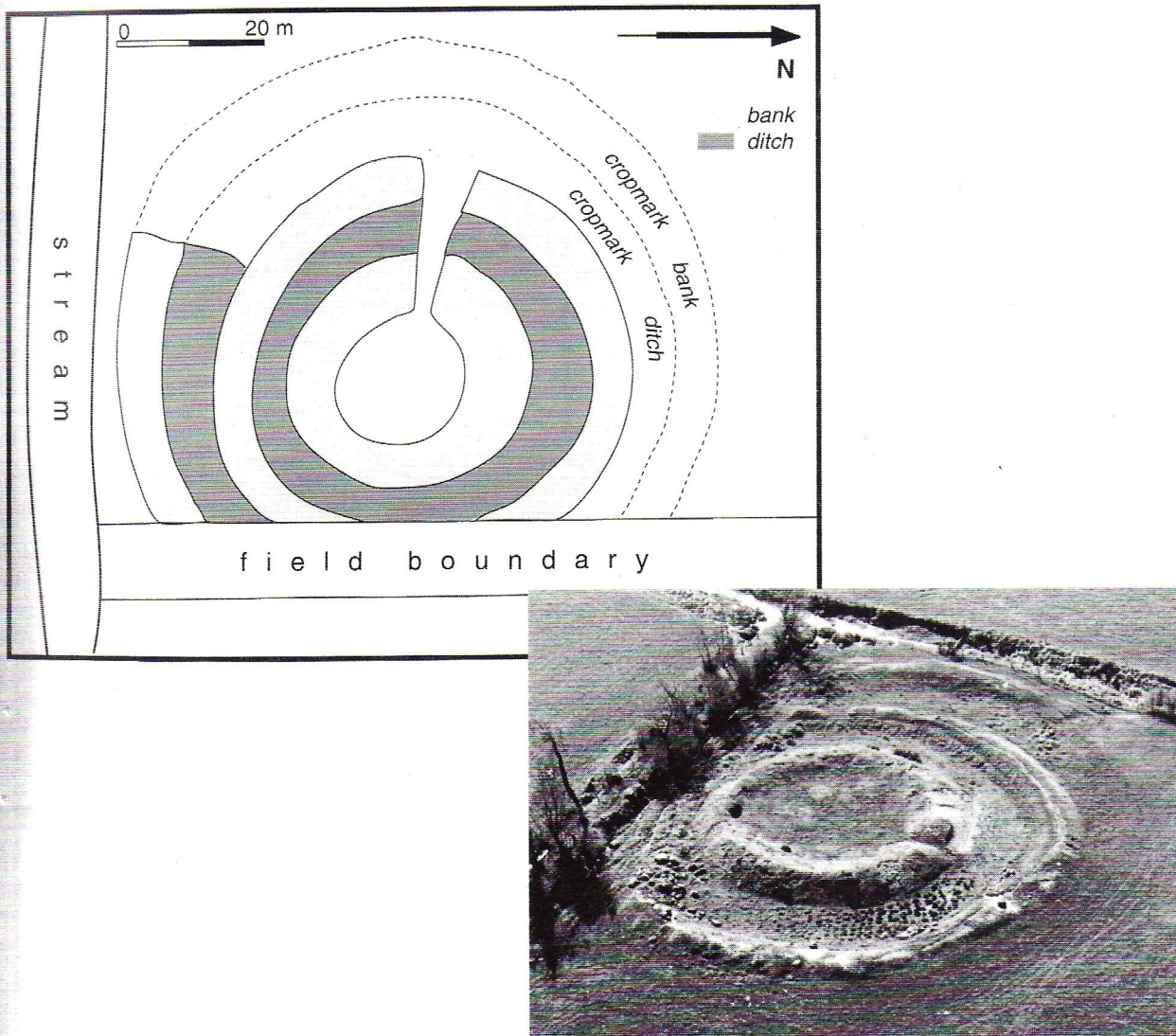


Fig. 16 Groundplan of the ringfort at Liscolman and aerial photograph (from north-west; Con Brogan, copyright Office of Public Works).

The Early Medieval Period

35 KILBOY

Ringfort

Access: through farmgate (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out) and field for about 80m.

The circular enclosure is 30m in diameter and is encircled by an earth and stone *bank*. The external dry-stone facing on the south side where the *bank* forms part of lane is probably a modern addition. This is traditionally the site of Kilboy church (sometimes "the Yellow Church"). It is believed that when the landowner Colonel Acton, was clearing the interior in the eighteenth century, human bones in large quantities were discovered and the interior of the enclosure was left undisturbed. There is no reliable evidence that this was an ecclesiastic rather than a domestic site apart from the traditional association and local belief in the presence of the burials.

40 BARNACLEAGH EAST

Ringfort

Access: through gate and into field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

A circular *ringfort* with an earthen *bank* and an external *ditch* (maximum external diameter 43m). The entrance is on the eastern side where there is a well-defined *causeway* across the *ditch* (other gaps in the *bank* are more recent).

42 JOHNSTOWN SOUTH

Ringfort

Access: through gate and into field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

Circular much denuded *ringfort* defended by an earthen *bank* and an external *ditch*. The entrance appears to have been on the southern side. The location, with steeper slopes uphill to the west and a natural drop in slope beyond the site to the east, gave an added measure of security to the occupants.

45 MOYLISHA

Ringfort

About two thirds of a circular *ringfort* (internal diameter 25m) defined by an earth and stone *bank* with traces of a low boulder edging on the inner edge of the *bank* on the southern side. Part of the *bank* has been incorporated into the field boundary on the north-west side. There are two gaps in the *bank*, at the northern and southern sides - either could indicate the original entrance. The perimeter of the *ringfort* has been completely levelled on the western side.

46 KILCAVAN UPPER

Ringfort

Access: into field and up hill (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

A large oval site (maximum external dimensions 62m by 56m) enclosed by an earthen *bank* and external *ditch*. Within the *ringfort* is a sub-rectangular enclosure (32m by 25m) also defined by a low earthen *bank* and a slight *ditch* along the south and west sides. There is no indication of the entrance to either feature nor is it certain that the inner enclosure is of the same date as the *ringfort*.

The monastery at Glendalough ("the valley of the two lakes") was founded in the sixth century AD by Kevin who appears to have received his spiritual education at the monastery of Kilnamanagh ("the church of the monks") near Tallagh in Dublin. He came from an aristocratic family of the *sept* of *Dal Messe Corb* who may have been forced into east Wicklow at some stage before Kevin's birth. The tradition of a solitary life of contemplation and prayer became an important element in the Irish church at an early stage and Kevin, seeking an isolated location, came to Glendalough which was within the territory of his family. He is supposed to have been guided by an angel in his choice of a hermitage. The original foundation may have centred around Temple-na-Skellig and Reefert Church (Sites 12-16 below) but the main focus during the later history of the monastery was the main walled enclosure with the round tower, crosses, cathedral and other churches (Sites 2-9 below). St. Laurence O'Toole was Abbot of Glendalough prior to his elevation to the Archbishopric of Dublin in 1163. After the arrival of the Normans Glendalough was united, in 1214, with the see of Dublin and seems to have declined gradually after that.

1. Trinity Church.

On the left hand side of the road on the approach to Glendalough. Church of *nave* and *chancel* construction with a flat headed west door and a small window in the south wall of the *nave*. The *chancel* has windows in the south wall and the east gable. A round tower, which blew down in 1818, was later added to the west end of the church when a new door was added to the south wall.

The following sites (2-9 and 11), around the great monastic enclosure, are detailed in map inset A:

2. Gateway

This was the main entrance to the monastic enclosure consisting of a small tower with projecting walls (*ante*) at at least ground floor level. Through this was a paved and vaulted entrance passage. The remains of the enclosure walls flank the tower. A large cross-inscribed stone stands inside the entrance.

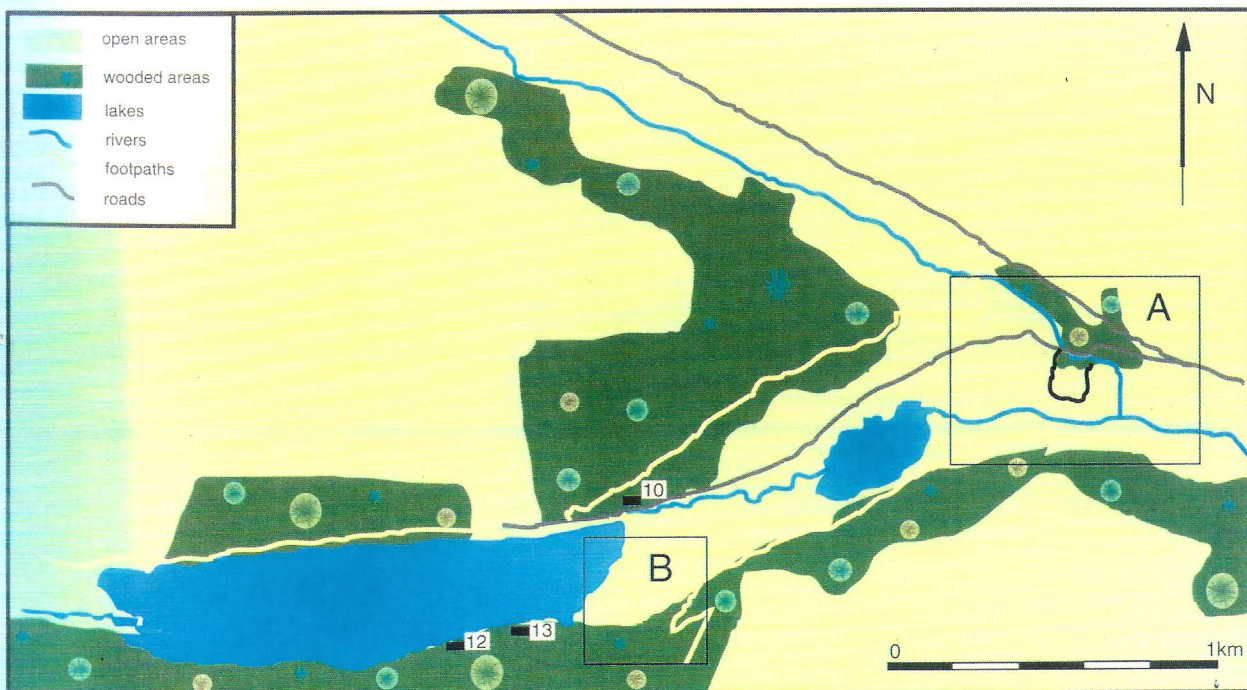


Fig. 17 Plan of the monastic complex at Glendalough A is Fig. 18 page 26 ; B is Fig. 19 page 27

The Early Medieval Period

3. Cathedral

The largest of the buildings at Glendalough and representing at least three major phases of building from the tenth to the twelfth centuries. The earliest stage consisted of the *nave* with projecting side walls (*ante*), two small windows in the south wall and a single doorway at the west end. Some alterations are evident in the south wall while the *chancel*, with a small sacristy attached to the south wall, was added later. The opening of the east wall of the *nave* and the insertion of the decorative *Romanesque chancel* arch belong to this phase. Within the church was a granite, unringed high cross (now in the Interpretative Centre) with a crucifixion on the front face with the figure of an ecclesiastic (possibly St. Kevin) on the shaft below. The other face and the sides bear *interlace motifs*. The cross is probably of eleventh-twelfth century AD date. This previously stood on the roadway in front of the hotel. There are inscribed grave slabs of the early historic and medieval periods within the church.

4. St. Kevin's Cross

Plain granite cross with an *unperforated* ring. Others of similar style occur at Burgage More and Clonmore, Co. Carlow (Sites 3 and 48).

5. St. Kevin's Church

Originally a stone roofed single chamber church (the present *nave*) with a simple west door and windows in the south wall and eastern gable. The tower, a small belfry, may be a later addition as were the *chancel* (now indicated only by the foundations and the clear line of its roof in the east gable of the *nave*) and a sacristy attached to the north-east angle. Although it contains features common in early stone churches it is probably no earlier than the tenth century in date. Access is now *via* the *chancel* arch at the east end of the *nave*. The church is used as a repository for architectural fragments from the monastery. It also contains several *bulllauns* (see p. 29) and decorated grave slabs of the early historic period while others occur outside the church to the north.

6. **St. Kieran's Church** - Small church of *nave* and *chancel* construction.

7. **Bullaun** (see p. 29).

Large unshaped boulder with a single basin carved in the upper surface.

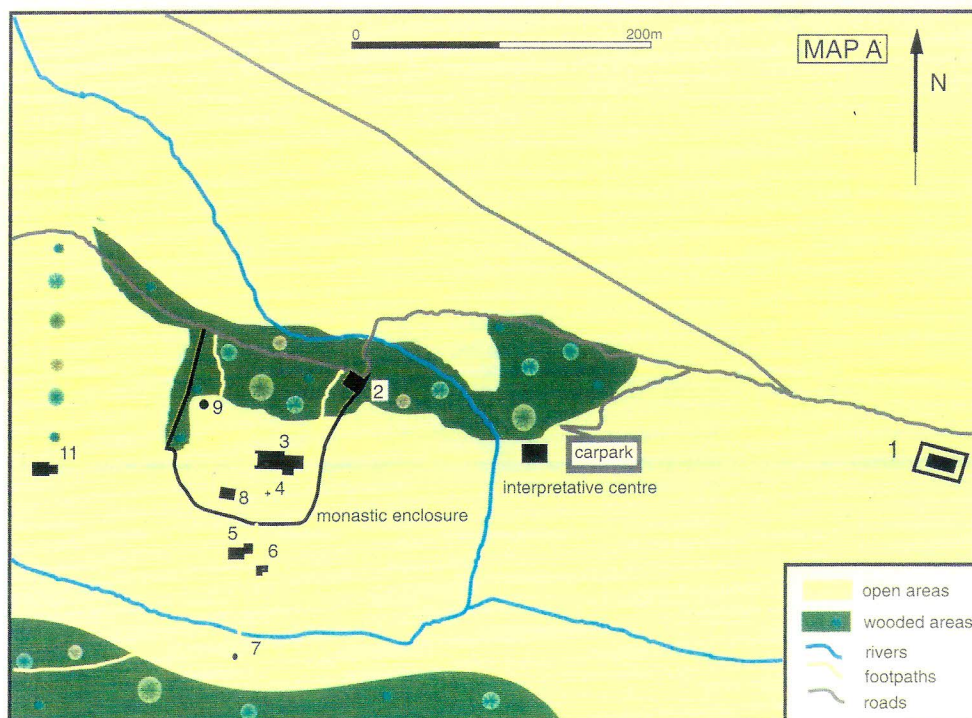


Fig. 18 Plan of the area around the principal enclosure at Glendalough

8. "The Priests' House"

This is so called because of its relatively modern use as a burial place for local clergy. A small *Romanesque* church of *nave* and *chancel* construction remodelled by demolishing the *chancel* and inserting a narrow window into the *chancel* arch. The finely carved arch (best viewed from the outside) was incorrectly restored in the last century using drawings of the eighteenth century. The narrow south door had a finely carved sculpture above it.

9. Round tower

The tower is 31.40m high and narrows from 4.70m in external diameter at the base to 4.10m at the top. Although largely of uncoursed masonry many of the stones have been worked to follow the curve of the wall. The tower, which was divided into seven storeys by wooden floors, was entered through a round headed doorway in the south east side set 3.50m above the ground. Access would have been by means of a wooden ladder which could be drawn up into the tower for added security. The origins of round towers are not yet clear but they seem to have served several purposes of which the principal everyday use was as bell towers. At the topmost level four windows face roughly north, east, south and west respectively and a hand bell would have been rung at each of these during the day (and night!) to call the monks to prayer and also to warn of danger. The towers were in part a response to the Viking raids of the late eight and early ninth centuries (Glendalough, although a considerable distance from the sea, was raided by the Norse on several occasions) and served as treasuries and refuges for the monks when under attack.

10. St. Saviour's Priory

Although traditionally founded by St. Lawrence O'Toole in 1162 the Priory is probably of slightly later date. The church is of *nave* and *chancel* construction. The *chancel* arch and the east window bear extensive *Romanesque* decoration including animal and human *interlace*. There are two doorways and two small windows in the south wall of the *nave* and a third doorway, possibly added when the northern extension to the *nave* was built in the later medieval period, in the north wall. The northern extension was of two storeys with the second, possibly providing living quarters, reached *via* a stairwell in the thickness of the eastern wall. The Priory stands within a small enclosure and was substantially restored after 1875.

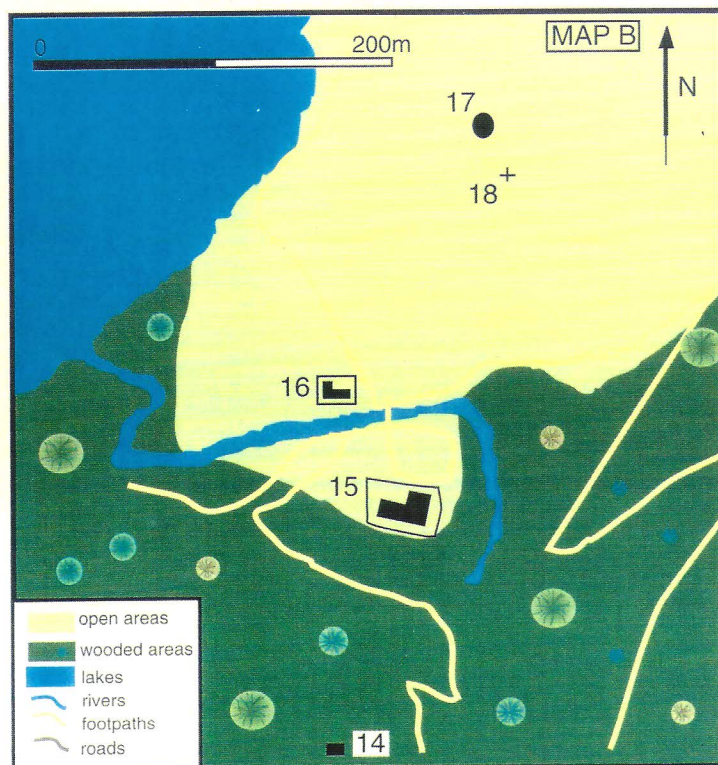


Fig. 19 Plan of the area around the Upper Lake at Glendalough

The Early Medieval Period

11. St. Mary's Church

Access through fields from the road, signposted. The church originally consisted of a single chamber (the *nave*) to which the *chancel* was added at a later stage. The *tapering* west door has a slightly raised, square edged border and a cross carved on the underside of the *lintel*. A later door occurs in the north wall. Some decorated grave slabs occur at the church which stands within a small rectangular enclosure.

12. Temple-na-Skellig

Fig. 17

The simple rectangular structure stands on a natural platform overlooking the lake and is accessible only by boat. The church originally had a *tapering* (i.e. widening from top to bottom) flat *lintelled* west door and a twin-light east window. There are some decorated grave slabs and a free standing Latin cross with decorative circles at the church. To the west is a roughly rectangular and enclosed raised platform accessed by a flight of shallow steps. This may have been the site of associated domestic quarters.

13. "St. Kevin's Bed"

Fig. 17

A small cave set in the steep rock face overlooking the lake and accessible by boat and ladder. This is the traditional site of Kevin's original dwelling place.

The following sites, around the east end of the upper lake, are detailed in map inset B:

14. "St. Kevin's Cell"

Also associated with the saint it is represented by the foundations of a beehive hut (a stone built circular house of *corbelled* construction). It stands on a level spur of ground to the west of Reefert Church (below).

15. Reefert Church

Church of *nave* and *chancel* construction with a *tapering*, flat *lintelled* west door and two small round-headed windows in the south and one in the east wall. The projecting *corbels* in the outer face of the west gable supported wooden rafters.

16. Church site - A small rectangular enclosure with the foundations of a church.

17. Circular stone fort, possibly not ancient. To the north-east of this are two stone Latin crosses.

18. Small Latin cross.

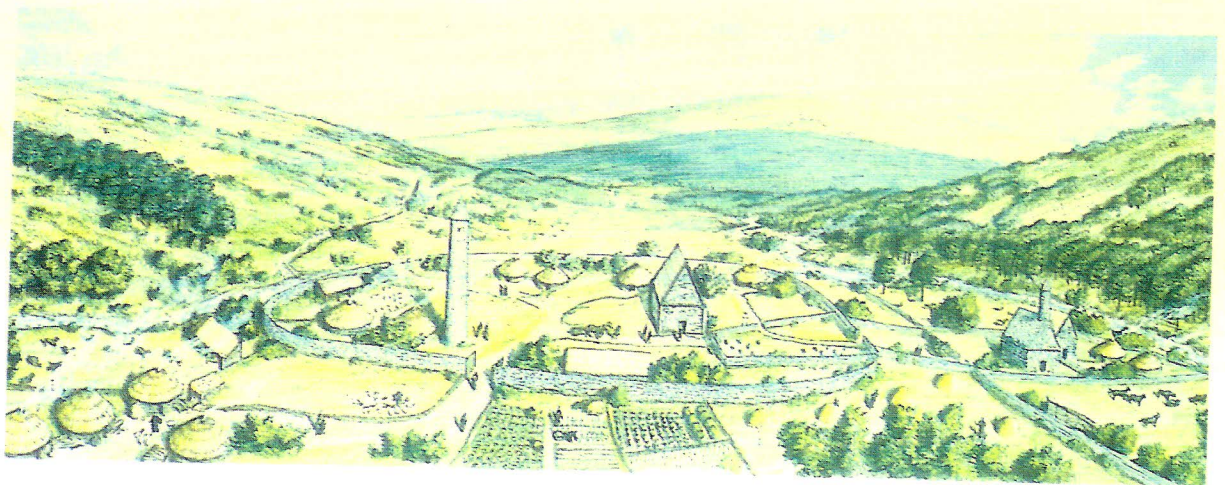


Fig. 20 Conjectural reconstruction of the principal enclosure at Glendalough (Stephen Conlin, copyright OPW)

Bullauns, grave slabs and ogham stones

37 CASTLETIMON

Ogham stone

Fig. 21

Access: turn right for Kilbride off Wicklow /Brittas Bay road. On the roadside in a cutting.

Ogham is an early historic script based on the Roman alphabet which probably developed in Wales in the early centuries AD. It is found widely in Ireland especially in the southern part of the country. The inscriptions are made up of groups of lines carved into the edge of the stone, each group representing a letter, and are read from the bottom

left up the stone, across the top and down the opposite side. The inscriptions are normally brief and commemorative, often consisting of the names of individuals and their lineage. The Castletimon stone consists of a now fallen granite slab (1.48m long by 0.40-0.50m wide). The inscription reads NETA-CARI NETA CAGI (the meaning is unknown).

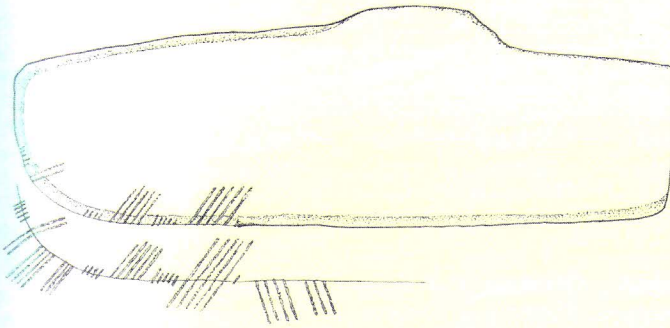
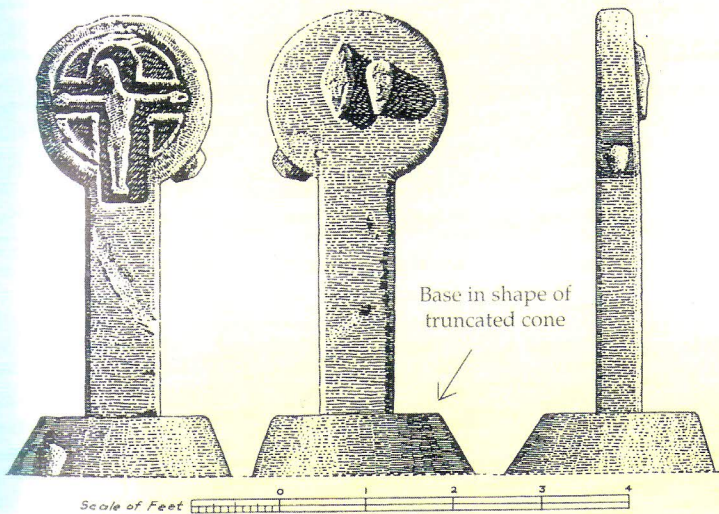


Fig. 21 Ogham Stone at Castletimon (Eoin Grogan)

6 FASSAROE ('St. Valery's Cross')

Fig. 22

Access: At Fassaroe Lane sign - beside laneway.



Granite free-standing cross (1.42m high) with a circular head set in a base in the shape of a truncated cone. Both faces are decorated. The west side shows Christ naked on the cross within a carved circle. His head is to one side and His feet overlap. The east face has two human heads one of them, probably a bishop, wearing a mitre. Two other, very worn, heads occur on the side of the cross shaft and on the base. The cross probably dates to between 1150 and 1200 AD and belongs to a small group of crosses in the south Dublin-north Wicklow area (see Killegar [1], see pages 30-31).

Healy 1958

Fig. 22 Early historic cross at Fassaroe ("St. Valery's Cross") (from Healy 1958)

21 Glendalough

Bullauns

Bullauns are blocks of uncut natural stone into which circular or oval basins have been carved. These can occur singly but some stones contain several basins. Their function is uncertain - they may have been used as holy water or baptismal fonts or for the grinding of corn (perhaps specifically for the production of bread used in church) - but they are concentrated at or near monastic sites of the early historic period. A major collection occurs at Glendalough and in that area of Wicklow. Some of the Glendalough *bullau*ns are in the Interpretative Centre and others are housed in St. Kevin's Church.

The Early Medieval Period

43 AGHOWLE

Bullaun

Fig. 23

See Site 43 page 34.

In a field about 100m south-east of the church (page 33). This is a slab of natural rock with four sub-circular basins carved into the upper surface.

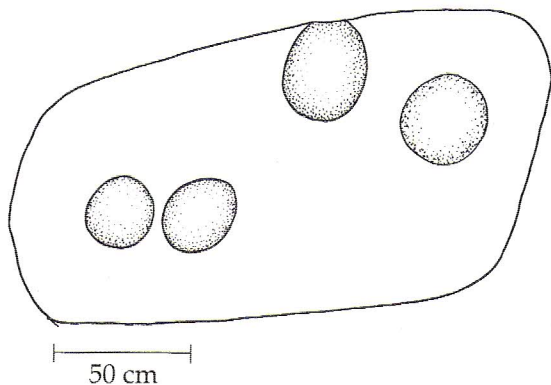


Fig. 23 Bullaun stone at Aghowle (Eoin Grogan)

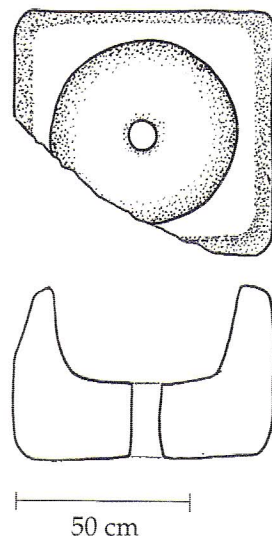


Fig. 24 Medieval baptismal font at Kilcoole (Eoin Grogan)

14 KILCOOLE

Medieval baptismal font

Fig. 24

See Site 14 page 32.

Square block of granite (0.75m by 0.72m) with rounded corners - one corner is broken off. The central circular basin (0.53m in diameter and 0.28m deep) has a central drain hole.

1 KILLEGAR

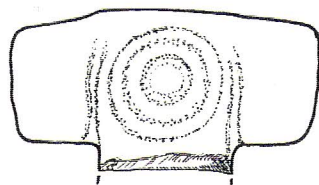
Cross slabs

Fig. 25

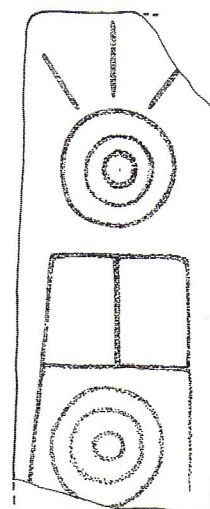
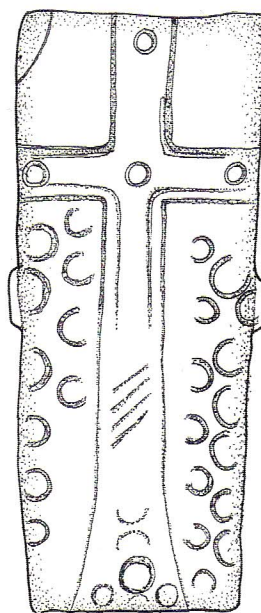
Access: in the *chancel* of the church at Killegar (See Site 1 page 31).

In the *chancel* is the head of a Tau, or T-headed cross, two cross-inscribed slabs, a graveslab and parts of the upper stones of two *rotary querns*. The head of another stone cross (Ó Ríordáin 1947, 84-5, Pl. XVIII; Ó hEailidhe 1957, 81, No. 14) is now missing.

An important group of grave slabs occur at Glendalough (21) where they occur beside St. Kevin's Church, in the cathedral and at Reefert Church, as well as in the Interpretative Centre.



Tau Cross



50 cm

Fig. 25 Early historic cross and graveslabs at Killegar (Eoin Grogan)

Early and Later Medieval Churches

1 KILLEGAR

Church

Fig. 26

Access: first turn left to Killegar after Monastery Cross on the Enniskerry/Kiltiernan road. Entrance 725 metres on left from turn; along laneway and through gate into fields (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out). Follow the track around the quarry.

Church consisting of a *nave* (12.50m long and c 5m wide internally) and *chancel* (6.50m long and 4.30m wide internally) standing on a low sub-rectangular rubble platform (27m long and 10m wide). The *chancel*, although substantially better preserved, seems to be the remains of an earlier, simple church onto which the *nave* was later added. A portion of an inner enclosure survives to the north of the modern graveyard and part of a curved outer enclosure, defined by a stone and earth *bank*, occurs to the west and south. There are stone crosses, graveslabs (see page 30) and *rotary querns* in the *chancel* and a granite cross base outside the south wall.

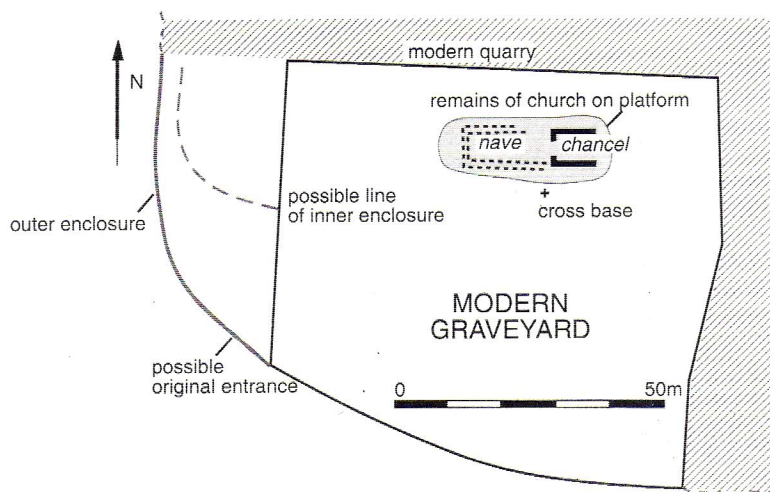


Fig. 26 Plan of the church site at Killegar

7 KILCRONEY

Church

Fig. 27

Access: through grounds of St. Joseph's Home of the Brothers of St. John of God.

Simple rectangular church (10.75m long and 6m wide internally) surviving to between 1.50m and 4.50m in height (the building has been substantially restored). The east gable has the probable remains of *ante in situ* but the west end appears to have been extended and the *ante* removed. The wall rests on a low plinth. There is a small round headed window towards east end of the south wall. The flat *lintelled* door in south wall has an internal *architrave*. The church probably dates to the tenth or eleventh century.

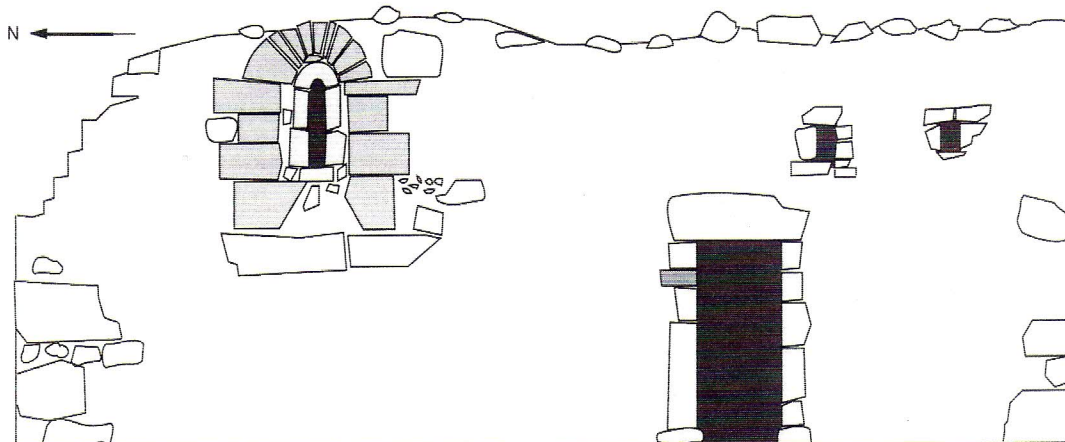


Fig. 27 Internal elevation of south wall at Kilcroney

The Early Medieval Period

10 NEWCOURT

Church

Fig. 28

Access: up hill from carpark on Bray Head (c 300m).

Simple rectangular church site of medieval date which may have belonged to the Friary of the Augustinian Hermits in Dublin. The church (10.80m by 5.9m internally) has a door in the north wall and simple rectangular round headed windows in the east and west gables. Cut granite forms the jambs and arches of the windows and the door-jambs. There was a similar church at Rathdown Upper, site 12, page 33.

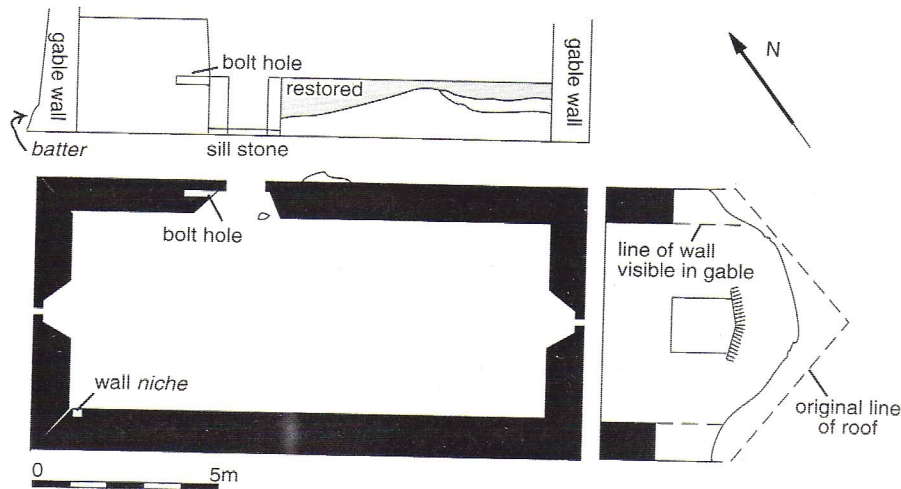


Fig. 28 Groundplan and elevation of the church at Newcourt

14 KILCOOLE

Church

Access: located beside Lott Lane in Kilcoole village; along lane through gate (signposted).

Divided *nave* (8.75m by 5.20m internally) and *chancel* (5.60m by 2.93m internally) with an extension to the *nave* at the west end (8.60m by 5.30m internally) all of *uncoursed rubble*. Both the *nave* and *chancel* had steep stone roofs and the base of the *corbelling* for these survives as does the upper line of the *nave* roof which projects from the gable above the *chancel* arch. Simple round-headed windows occur in the east gable and the south wall of the *nave* with simple *tapering* windows at a high level in the east and west gables. The south window has *bevelled* sandstone jambs and arch stones. The *nave* is now divided by a modern wall. The later western extension, probably consisting of two storeyed living quarters, has a door, marked only at foundation level, at the western end of the south wall. A font (see page 30) stands immediately inside the door of the *nave*.

The church stands in a quadrangular graveyard which contains a large number of early eighteenth century gravestones including one carved by Dennis Cullen (Robert McCormick ob. 1784). A 'holy well', 100m to the north-east, consisting of a natural spring was associated in local tradition with the church.

12 RATHDOWN UPPER "St. Crispin's Cell" Church, Medieval Complex Fig. 29

Access: at Rathdown, Greystones off the Greystones/Bray road.

A simple rectangular church with a porch at the west end. The church survives largely intact. The walls are of *uncoursed rubble* with *dressed* quartzitic and granite *quoins*. There is a round headed door framed by granite surrounds and flat headed windows (the timber

lintels have been removed) in the east and south walls. A small *niche* occurs in the south wall to the east of the window. The structure is probably of eighteenth century date but it incorporates elements, such as the west door and *threshold*, from the medieval parish church which stood at this location and was demolished in the seventeenth century. Outside the church at the north-west corner part of a *plinth* on which the original church stood clearly continues beyond the line of the present building indicating that the medieval church was longer. The graveyard, in which the church stood, was cleared in the seventeenth century by the landlord, the engineer Charles Tarrant who lived in the nearby farm. The church forms part of a medieval village complex; the castle (Site 11) and the main part of the village itself stood to the east of the church (see page 48).

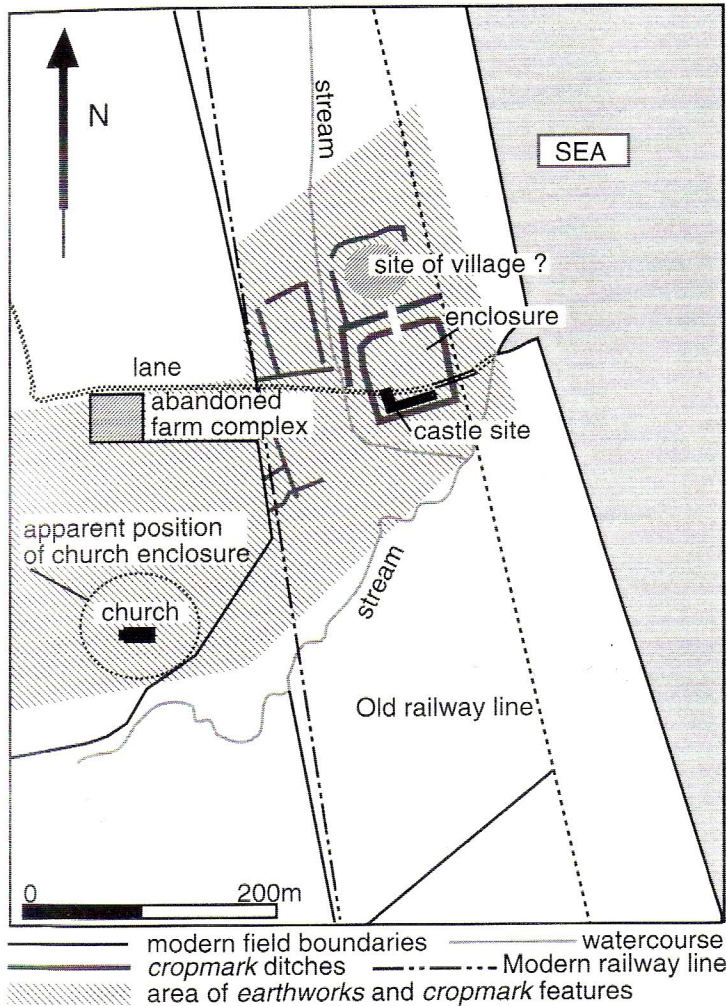


Fig. 29 Plan of the medieval complex at Rathdown Upper

32 BAHANA

Church

Simple rectangular structure, called 'Kilcommon Church', of *uncoursed rubble* probably of fifteenth or sixteenth century date. Although the walls are poorly preserved the layout is reasonably clear. A small window in the east gable is of granite with external *chamfers* and *glazing bar holes* and another probably occurred close to that end of the building in the south wall. The door would have been in the centre of the west gable. A small wall *niche* survives in the south-east angle of the church. The church is in the centre of a quadrangular graveyard. This is enclosed by a now largely collapsed earth and stone *bank* with an outer *ditch* surviving on the northern and eastern sides. This is probably the remnant of an earlier enclosure possibly dating to the early historic period. Within the church are several mid eighteenth century headstones including one carved by Dennis Cullen for the grave of the Rev. Bryan Byrn who died in 1776. Notice that as this is the grave of a priest the headstone is at the east end of the grave facing west. Cullen was a well known eighteenth - early nineteenth century stone mason whose imagery was heavily influenced by both early historic and medieval symbolism. Other headstones by him are to be found mainly in south Wicklow as well as examples at Kilcoole, site 14, page 32.

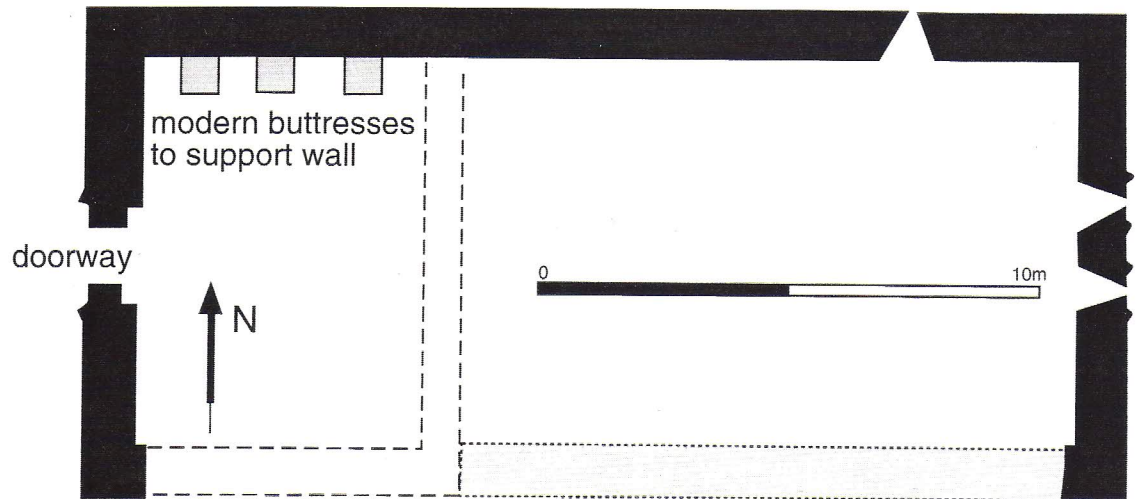


Fig. 30 Plan of the church at Aghowle

43 AGHOWLE

Church

Figs. 30 & 31

Access: follow signpost to left on the Shillelagh/Tullow road. At Aghowle follow second signpost to site. The entrance is signposted along lane (500m) to graveyard; please close the access gate at the road.

The early medieval monastery is reputed to have been founded in the early sixth century by St. Finian of Clonard in Co. Westmeath. The church, dating to the twelfth century, is the only surviving structural remnant. This is a long rectangular building (18m by 7.40m internally) of which the original north, east and west walls survive largely intact; the section forming the western end of the north wall and that dividing the church are modern additions. There are only three small windows in the remaining portions of the church (there were probably others in the south wall towards the east end); the pair in the east gable have unusual *flanking* columns on the external face of the wall; these are supported by projecting *corbels* two of which are in the form of animal heads. The arches of these windows are decorated with chevron ornament, now unfortunately very faint. The fine west door is *lintelled* on the outside and arched inside. Within the graveyard is an unfinished granite cross (north of the church), some early graveslabs and a millstone. A *bullain* (see page 30) occurs 100m to the south-east of the church. It has four basins.

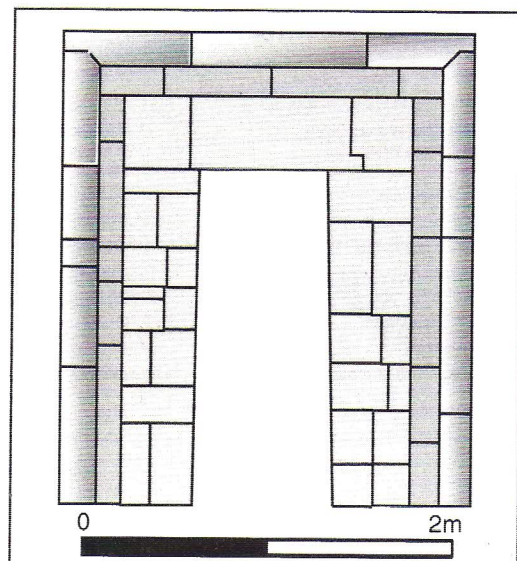


Fig. 31 The west doorway at Aghowle (after Leask 1977, fig. 44)

23 WICKLOW

The name of the town is derived from *Vikingalo* ('meadow of the Vikings') or *Vik-lo* ('meadow of the bay'). Little is known of the Viking settlement which was founded in the ninth century. The castle of Wicklow ('The Black Castle', 23d), which may originally have been a Viking or even earlier fortification, was granted by Henry II to Richard de Clare ('Strongbow') who in turn granted it to Maurice FitzGerald. The town was established soon afterwards and in 1199 plots and associated privileges were confirmed to the Cistercian Abbey of St. Mary's in Dublin. A deed of 1256-68 mentions further *burgages* and a 'King's Street'. The town was captured briefly by the O'Tooles and O'Byrnes in 1301 and continued to be harried by the Irish but it remained as an isolated Anglo-Norman settlement on the southern edge of the Pale until the sixteenth century. With the revival of English interests in Ireland in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the town once more became prominent as a port and garrison. The medieval town was probably centred along Main Street which runs parallel to the natural harbour to the north. As is the case with most medieval towns small lanes and streets open off this to the north and south while the wider parts, at the north and south ends, may be the location of the market place where stalls would have been erected for fairs and markets. The location of the Friary (23b), just outside the town, is also a typical feature.

The surviving antiquities include a possible *motte* (23c) on the north-west edge of the town, portions of a *Romanesque* church (23a), the Franciscan Abbey (23b) and the Black Castle (23d) on the eastern extremity.

23a Wicklow

Access: Church of Ireland parish church on the north-western edge of the town.

The church itself is believed to be of seventeenth century date but any original features are largely obscured behind modern pebble dashing and plastering. Some early eighteenth century memorials occur in the stone flagged floor. Remains of a fifteenth century church were observed on the south side of the present building during the digging of graves and there is a fragment of a fifteenth century window in the graveyard. Three late seventeenth century headstones occur in the graveyard indicating the presence of a church on the site at the time.

There is a reconstructed *Romanesque* doorway set into the porch on the south side of the present church.
(P.T.O.)

Church

Fig. 32

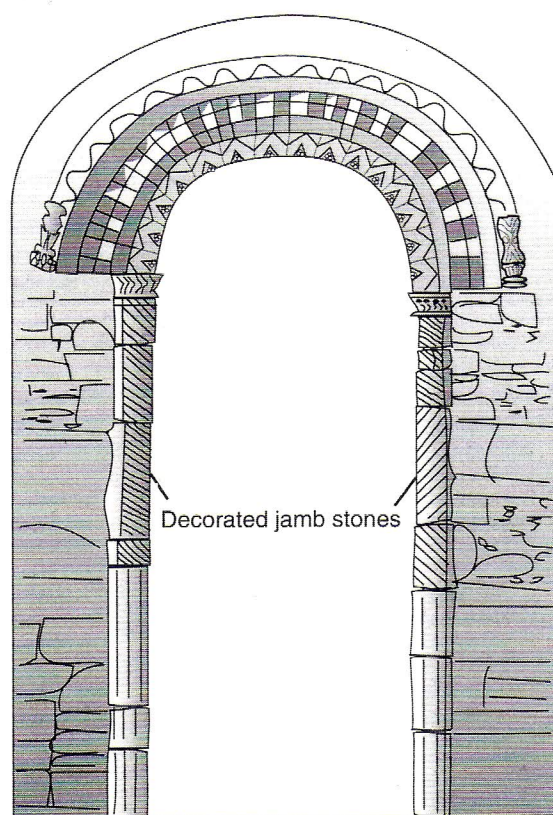


Fig. 32 The Romanesque doorway at Wicklow.

Viking and Medieval Towns

This consists of three decorative arches with a single, partly spiral ornamented, jamb constructed from fragments which would originally have formed two or more joined columns. The *capitals* appear to be inverted bases while bases or *capitals* occur under the ox-head terminals of the outer arch. While it has been suggested that this doorway was removed from the church at Old Kilcullen, Co. Kildare in the early nineteenth century other elements from a *Romanesque* church, consisting of a decorated font and arch stone (both in the church) have been found at Wicklow and a church is known to have stood at this site since 1275 at least. The arch and font suggest the erection of a *Romanesque* church on this site, probably in the late twelfth century.

Hickey 1972

23c Wicklow

Motte

The site is not accessible at present. It consists of a steep sided, flat-topped mound c 6-7m in height on the west side and situated on elevated ground on the northern end of the town overlooking the Leitrim River.

23d Wicklow

Castle ('The Black Castle')

Fig. 33

Access: on the north-eastern edge of the town. Short walk across a park.

This is a triangular *keep* of *uncoursed rubble* in a poor state of preservation.

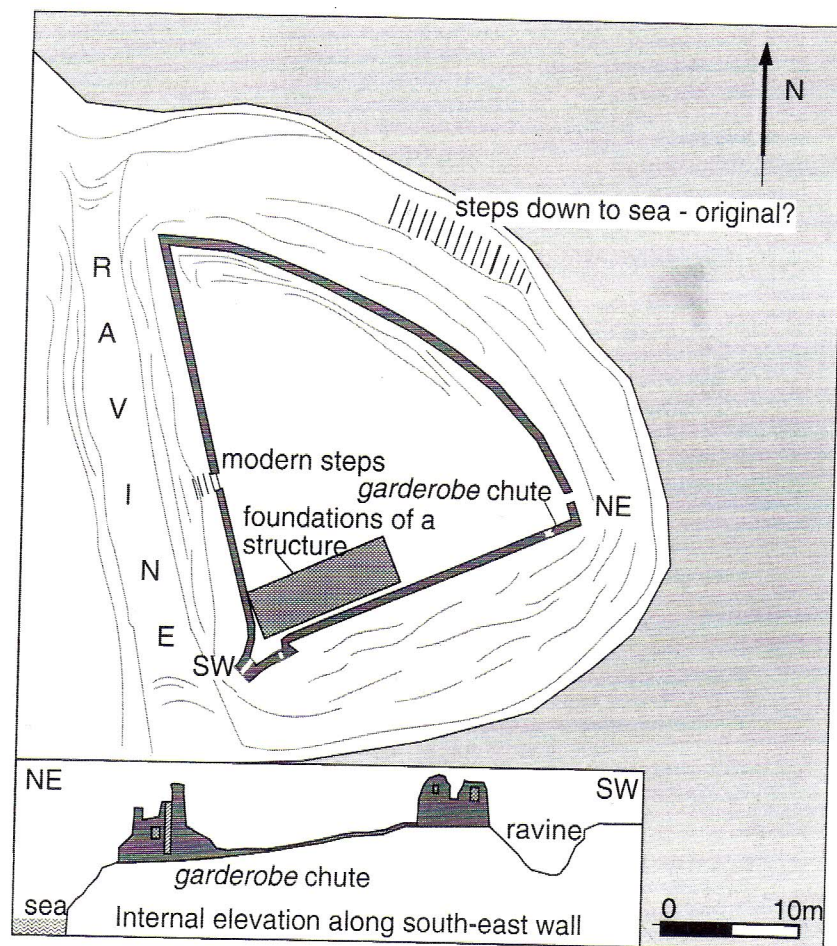


Fig. 33 Plan of "The Black Castle", Wicklow.

41 Arklow

The name Arklow is of Scandinavian origin (the ending - *lo* - meaning a meadow) although the precise meaning is uncertain. Little is known of the Viking settlement although there is an important ninth century AD Viking burial from the town. In the absence of historical information it is probable that the site was not much more than a hamlet, possibly an occasional port on the way to Dublin. More extensive settlement dates to the Norman period when the manor of Arklow was granted by Prince John in 1185 to Theobald FitzWalter whose descendants, the Butler earls of Ormond, retained possession of the area throughout the medieval period.

At a very early stage (before 1204) Theobald founded a Cistercian Abbey but the monks were moved to Co. Limerick the following year. The exact location of the Abbey is uncertain although some evidence suggests that it was on the north side of the bridge on a sand bank (the "island" of Arklow was granted to the monks from the founding Abbey of Furness in north-west England).

The town retains its medieval linear pattern, characteristic of Anglo-Norman towns in Ireland, with long narrow properties opening off either side of Main Street. A market occurred along the street, possibly towards the western end where it widens near the castle (see below). The harbour, which would have been an essential feature of the town, was probably positioned at the eastern end. While no evidence for town walls survives the common southern boundary of the plots opening off Main Street suggests that defences, in the form of earthen *ramparts* at least, were erected. The parish church was on the north side of Main Street (now the site of a public park) with eighteenth and nineteenth century AD headstones from the graveyard re-erected along the walls including some by Dennis Cullen - see sites 14, 32). A second park, also with re-erected headstones, on the southern edge of the medieval town marks the location of a Dominican foundation ("The Friary of the Holy Cross") of which portions survived until the middle of the eighteenth century. This was established in 1264 by Thomas Theobald FitzWalter and was suppressed in 1559.

The only medieval remains still in existence in Arklow consist of part of the thirteenth century castle at the western end of Main Street (the interior, part of a private garden, is not accessible). A circular wall tower, now three storeys high, is attached to a substantial wall (surviving to a height of 4-8m). Two arrow loops and a larger window are visible in the wall near the tower.

Although little of the medieval architecture of Arklow survives the documentary sources indicate that it was an important centre of Anglo-Norman authority and a significant outpost of the Pale despite its capture by the Irish in 1331. By 1571, the date of an important document recording an agreement between the Earl of Ormond and the townsmen, the town appears to have been in a poor state with the castle, harbour and defences in disrepair. The town surrendered to Cromwell in 1649 while his army was advancing to Wexford and the Butlers sold their interest in Arklow in 1700 to John Allen of Stillorgan.

41a Bray

In addition to the Viking towns at Arklow and Wicklow nine new towns or urban centres, including Burgage (Site 3, page 45) and Donaghmore (Site 20, page 42), were founded by the Anglo-Normans. Of the latter it seems that only Bray survived as a borough throughout the troubled period in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. A castle was in existence, at the north-west end of the town, in 1225 while it was in the hands of the de Ridelesford family to whom it had been granted before 1176 by Strongbow (Richard de Clare). A weekly market was granted in 1213 (Bradley and King 1989, 12-19). In the thirteenth century *burgages* were granted by de Ridelesford to St. Mary's Abbey and St. Thomas, Dublin. Although there is little above ground evidence for the early town it is probable that the present main street follows the line of its medieval predecessor. For other sites in Bray see Newcourt (Site 10, page 32) and Oldcourt (Site 9, page 46).

Later medieval monasteries

23b Wicklow

Franciscan Friary

Fig. 34

Access: through the garden of the parish priest's residence. Situated opposite the Grand Hotel.

The Friary was founded around 1265 on the northern edge of the medieval town of Wicklow. Local tradition suggests that it was built by the O'Tooles and O'Byrnes although this is improbable given its proximity to the Anglo-Norman settlement and the associated stronghold of the Black Castle. The remains of the church consist of the north wall of the *nave* and portions of the south *transept*. It was built of uncoursed slaty limestone with *pock dressed* window arches and jamb stones. A much repaired three light window with red and yellow sandstone jambs occurs in the south wall of the *transept*. The abbey had been deserted by 1615 and although they returned around 1635 the friars were expelled during the Cromwellian wars to return again in 1659. The Friary was finally abandoned early in the eighteenth century.

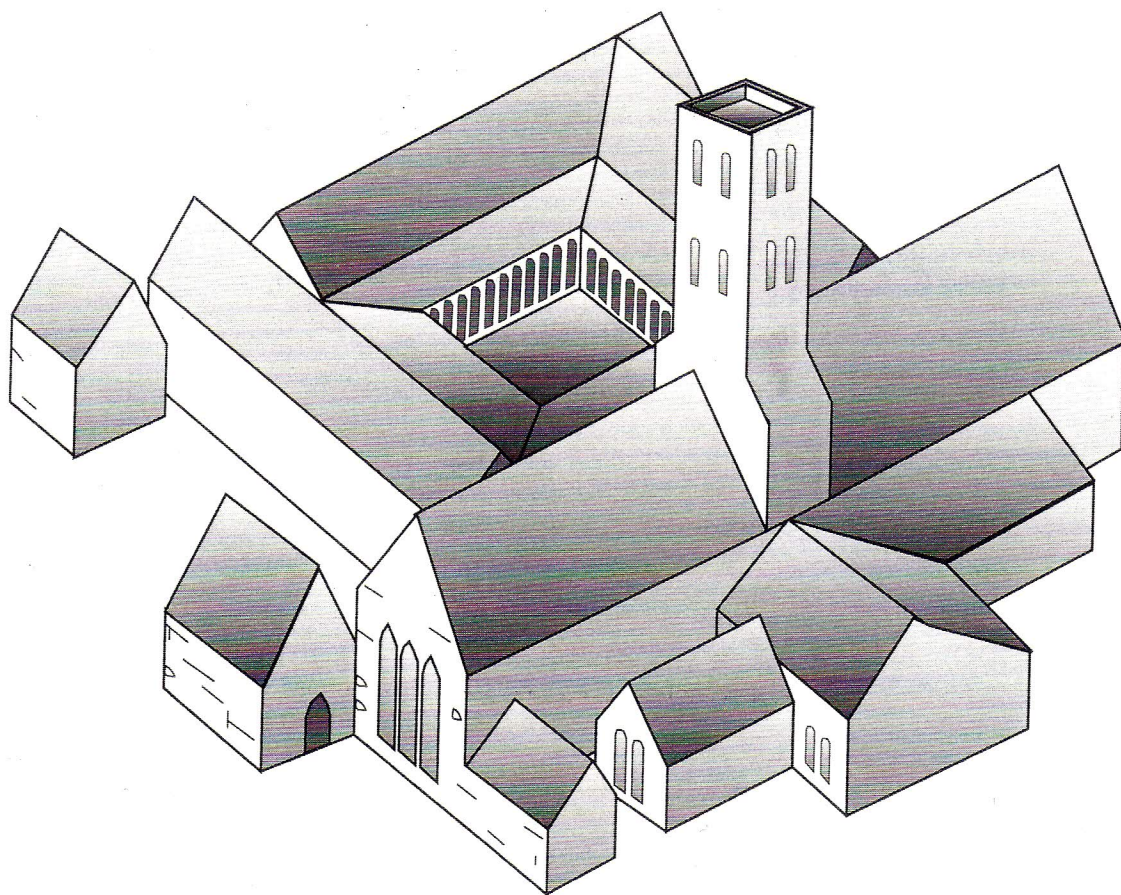


Fig. 34 Reconstruction drawing of a Franciscan Friary

Access: along Church Lane from the town and through the church gate.

Founded in 1148 by Dermot McMurrough, king of Leinster, and the second daughter house of the first Cistercian monastery at Mellifont, Co. Louth. Baltinglass (*Vallis Salutis*: 'Valley of Salvation') was mother house to four further monasteries - at Jerpoint, Co. Kilkenny (founded 1160-62), Abbeyleix, Co. Laois (1184), Abbeymahon, Co. Cork (1172-89) and Monasterevin, Co. Kildare (1178-89). The building was completed by around 1180. After the Anglo-Norman conquest Baltinglass remained strongly Irish and was involved (1216 - 1231) in a bitter dispute involving some of the Cistercian abbeys in Ireland and those ruled by English abbots who supported the central authority of the Order, the Chapter General, which was mistrusted by the Irish. Malachy, the abbot of Baltinglass, was described by the suppressor of the revolt, Stephen Lexington (abbot of the Cistercian monastery at Stanley, Wiltshire), as "that perverse and deceitful fox" and although deposed and sent to Fountains Abbey for two years he fled to fight his case at Cîteaux, the founding Cistercian monastery in France, and Rome. An Anglo-Norman abbot was imposed on Baltinglass in 1227 but was driven out by the monks. The determination of Lexington quelled the problems of the Irish revolt and the abbey became part of the Anglo-Norman establishment. Baltinglass was dissolved in 1536, one of the earliest victims of the reformation. It had already declined considerably: by 1536 it had less than fifteen monks and in 1540-41 the monastery was in a very poor state of repair. Nevertheless, the abbey owned about 720 acres of land in Wicklow as well as castles, farmhouses and mills and also had possessions in counties Kildare, Carlow and Laois. However, much of their land was in small scattered parcels and some of the Wicklow land was mountain scrub. The land was granted to Sir Thomas FitzEustace, later Viscount Baltinglass.

Of the original foundation only part of the church, which formed the northern perimeter of the monastery, survives. This shows strong continental influence in the plan - particularly the pairs of separate chapels in the transepts - but has decorative features which already show the liking of Irish craftsmen for ornamentation, which was expressly forbidden in the Cistercian Rule. Some of this can be seen in the decoration of the *capitals* along the *arcades* (Fig. 36).

The church is built largely of *uncoursed rubble* (un-cut or roughly dressed stone) but cut stone was used in the arches, windows and doorways as well as in the *quoins* and columns of the *arcades* in the *nave* and choir. The interior of the church would have been plastered. The church has an impressive choir and *nave* with aisles on the north and south side flanked by an *arcade* with eight pointed barrel arches rising on alternating circular and square bases or supports which in turn rest on a screen-wall of rubble. Entrance to the church was by means of two doors. One was in the angle between the church and the south *transept* which allowed the monks access from the *cloister*. The other was, unusually for Cistercian churches, in the north wall of the *nave* and this provided access for the local community. The west door was added before 1792.

In the fourteenth century a narrow tower was added to the mid-section of the church at the intersection between the choir / presbytery and the transepts. Parts of the base of this survive and the tower is shown in Grose's illustration of 1792. It appears that at the same time, or perhaps somewhat later, the size of the church was reduced by inserting a new cross wall at the western end of the choir. At that stage the church became a small rectangular building made up of the choir and presbytery with the tower over the centre. The interior of the church was rebuilt in 1815, including the erection of a slender neo-Gothic tower (still standing) at the west end of the remodelled building, as a Protestant parish church which remained in use until 1883. The abbey was partly excavated in 1955 when cut stone from the *cloister arcade* was recovered.

Of the *cloister* and other monastic buildings nothing survives but these would have occurred on the south side of the church and, in general, the layout of the Cistercian abbeys in Ireland followed a basic pattern. The reconstructed abbey (Fig. 38) is based on

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Jerpoint - the first daughter house of Baltinglass founded in about 1160-62. Much of the architectural details are similar at both sites and some of the masons who helped to build Baltinglass probably worked also at Jerpoint.

The monastic cemetery and gardens were enclosed within stout walls (described in 1540). A small castle, probably a *tower house* with perhaps other buildings within a *baron* also stood to the south of the abbey. This was built, probably as a residence for the abbot, in the sixteenth century. The last abbot, John Galboly, certainly appears to have occupied it much in the manner of a secular lord and for a time it became the residence of the FitzEustace family. Parts of it survived until 1882 (Fig. 37) when it was demolished to provide building materials for the new church and rectory.

Stalley 1987

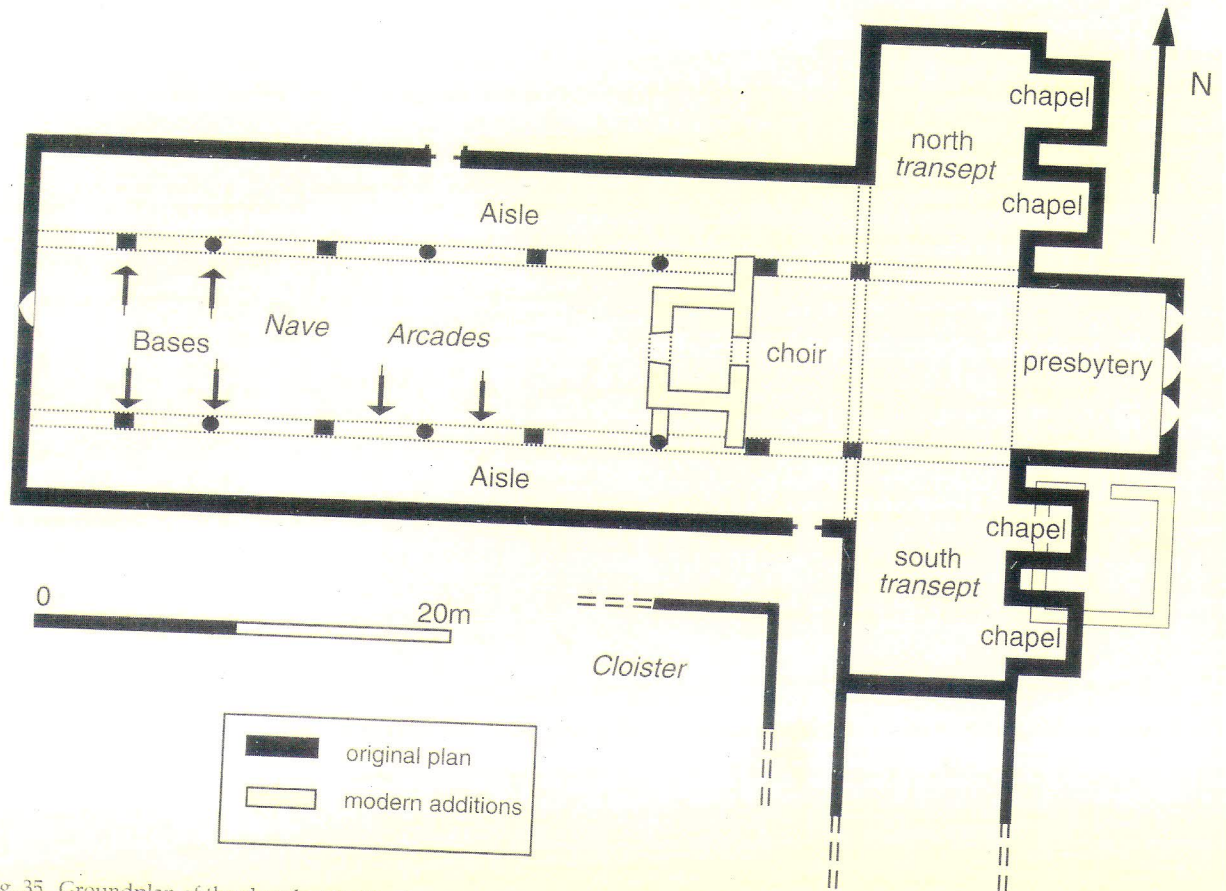


Fig. 35 Groundplan of the church at Baltinglass Abbey

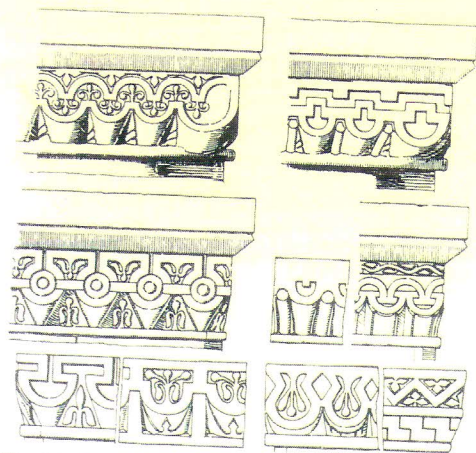


Fig. 36 Decoration on the capitals at Baltinglass Abbey (after Leask)

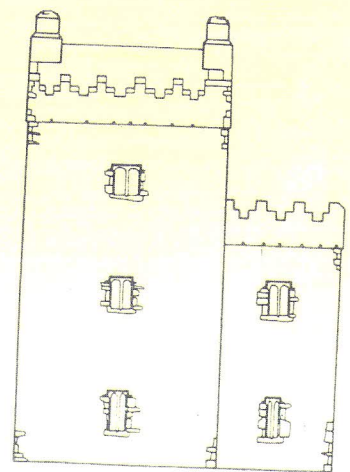


Fig. 37 Elevation of the castle at Baltinglass Abbey (after Stalley 1987)

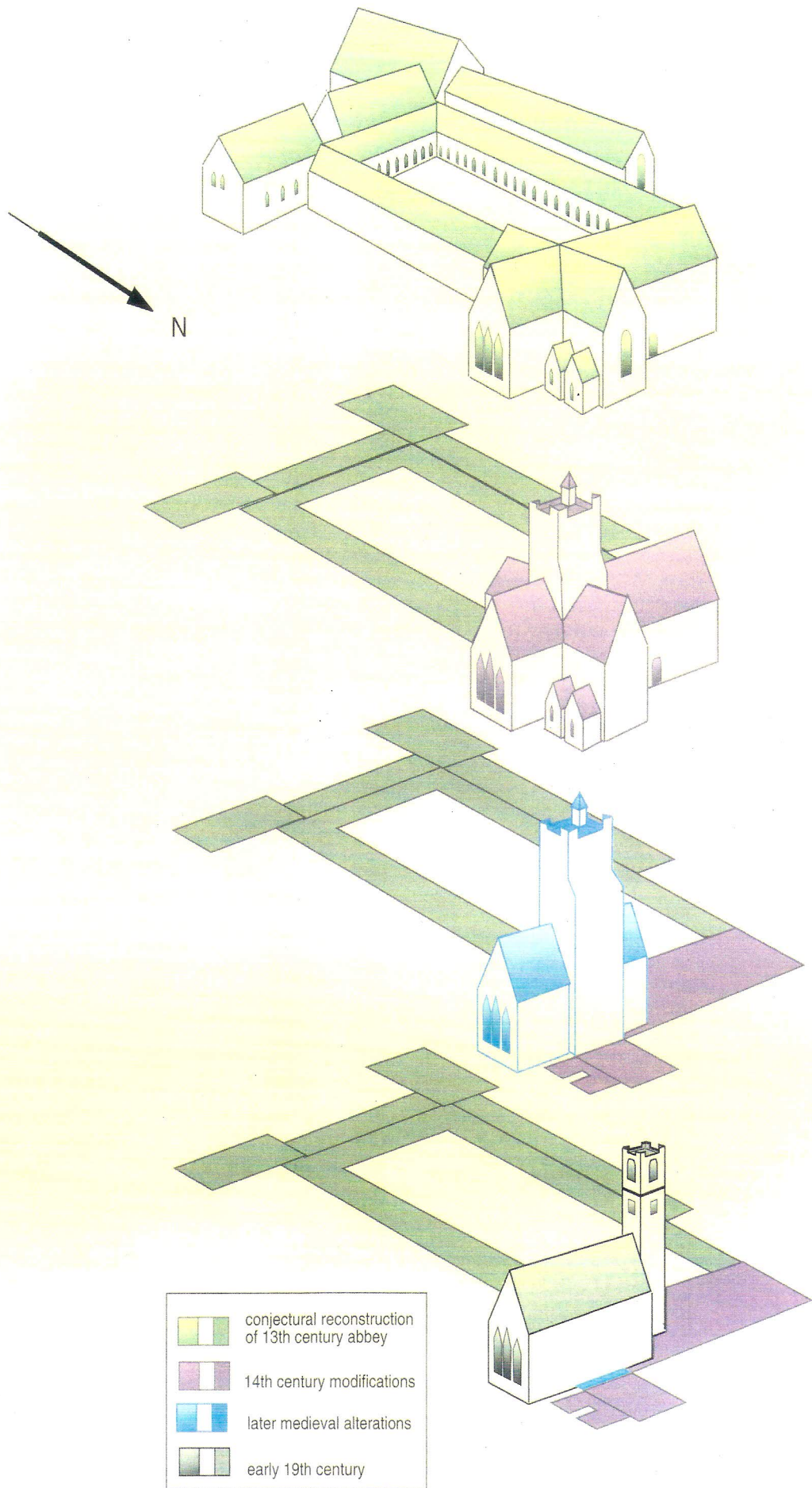


Fig. 38 Structural sequence at Baltinglass

The Later Medieval Period

Mottes, moated sites and castles: Anglo-Norman fortifications

Motte and bailey

The earliest fortifications erected by the Normans were the *mottes* which consisted of high steep sided *mounds* surmounted by a timber tower with a stockade around the summit perimeter. These strongholds were quickly built in strategic locations during their military advances and were provided with garrisons. Many *mottes* were constructed during the subsequent stage of the conquest as an element of consolidation. A low platform (called a '*bailey*') is often associated with the *motte*; this was separated from the *motte* by a *bank* and *ditch* which also defended the rest of the bailey's perimeter. The *bailey* was used principally to provide domestic quarters and shelter for animals.

20 CASTLERUDDERY LOWER

Motte

Fig. 39

Access: at Ballyhubbock Bridge adjacent to Castleruddery. Through gate into field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

Circular steep sided platform (41m in diameter and 4.50-5.50m high) encircled by *ditch* (3-4m wide). Two *causeways* one of which, on the north-western side crossing the *ditch* at angle and leading to a narrow *ramp* accessing the summit of the *motte*, may be an original feature. A largely natural roughly rectangular platform (measuring 25m from east to west and 16m from north to south) is on the lip of a 15m drop to the river floor 28m to the south of *motte* and may be an associated feature, possibly a type of *bailey*. This is separated by an enlarged gully. The *motte* is on a marked south facing slope with a very steep slope dropping to the marshy floor of the Slaney River valley 100m to the south and overlooking an important fording point at Ballyhubbock Bridge.

The *motte* was probably associated with the Anglo-Norman borough (town) of Donaghmore c 500m to the north-east. Nothing survives of the town itself which was abandoned in the early thirteenth century.

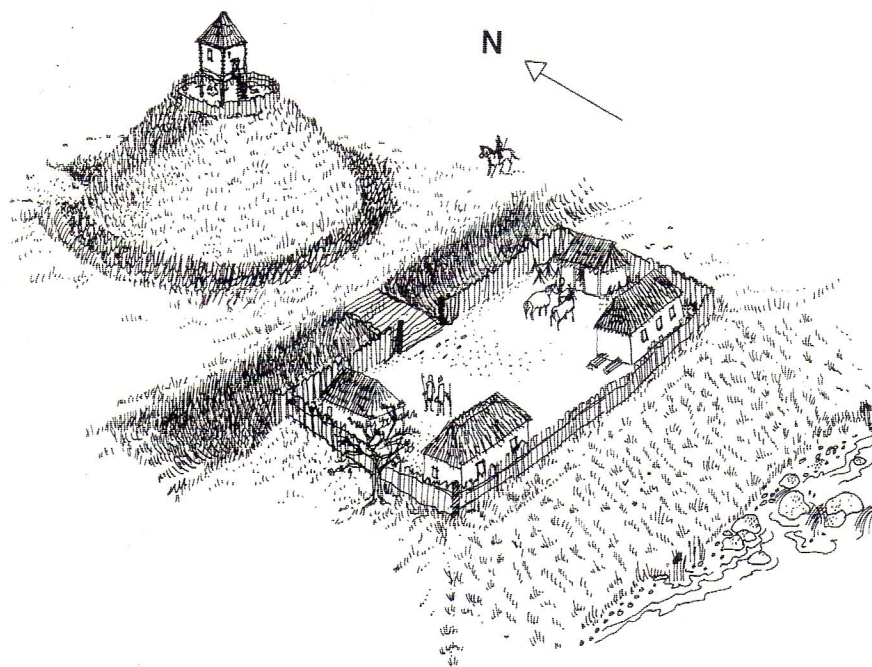


Fig. 39 Conjectural reconstruction of Castleruddery motte (Annaba Kilfeather)

22 CASTLEKEVIN

Motte/castle

Fig. 40

Access: adjacent to Annamoe off the Annamoe/Ashford road. Turn left at fork roads. Located on left hand side of road immediately before sharp right turn. Through gate into field (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

The site was originally constructed c 1214 by Henry de Loundres Archbishop of Dublin and perhaps consisted of a circular *motte* with a *bailey* on the eastern side. The site

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was extensively rebuilt to act as the centre of a campaign against the O'Tooles and at this time it was probably enlarged to its present form. Later the site was granted to the O'Tooles but was destroyed before 1636 and not subsequently repaired.

The *motte* (measuring 70m from north to south by 46m from east to west) is a rectangular platform with a level summit (34m from north to south by 31m from east to west and 6-7m in height above the base of the *ditch*) and steep battered sides faced with *uncoursed rubble*. In the centre of the eastern side is a projecting gate tower of *uncoursed rubble* and part of a corner tower survives at the north-east angle. The platform is surrounded by a flat bottomed *ditch* (6-8m wide and 2-3m deep) and, on the north side, by a *bank* (7m wide and 2.50m high), a sunken road and an outer *bank* (4.50m wide and 1m high). The track and outer *bank* continue along the northern edge of the *bailey* to the east.

The *bailey* consists of a sub-rectangular area 143m from east to west and 67m north to south. This is defined by *scarp*, or cut into the natural slope, along the north and east sides and by a *ditch* (4m wide) on the southern side. A track, *flanked* on the northern side by an earthen *bank* which merges into the natural slope, follows the northern edge of the *bailey*.

The site is on a ridge overlooking the marshy floor of a stream valley to the north.

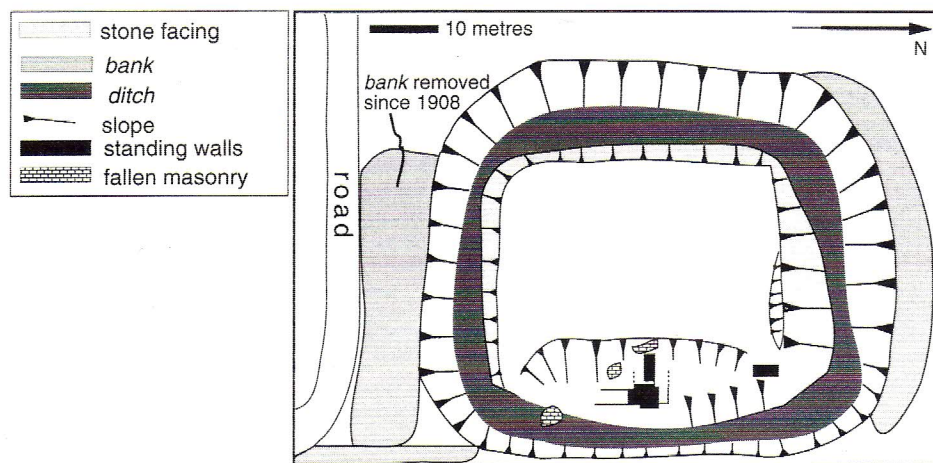
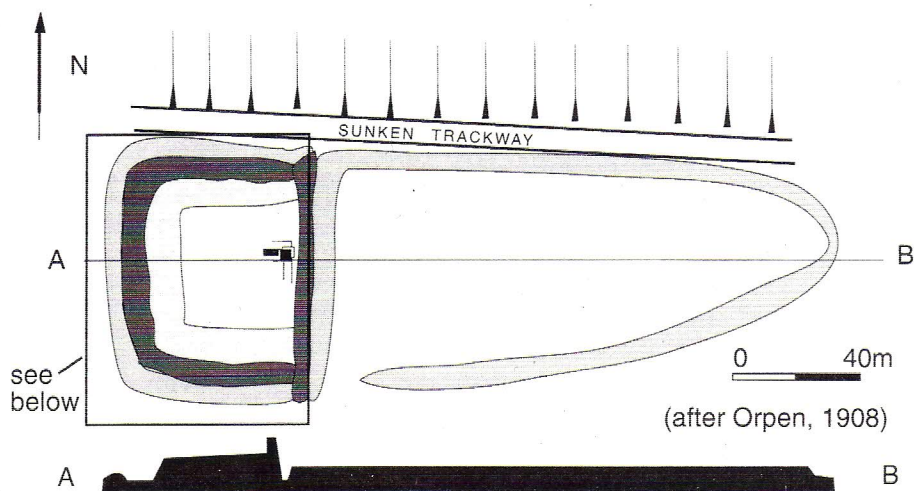


Fig. 40 Plan of the motte/castle at Castlekevin

Tower Houses

From the fourteenth century, and especially in the two centuries following, a very large number of small castles were built by both Anglo-Norman and Gaelic families mainly as defended homes. Most were erected in rural areas but they also functioned as fortified houses in towns, most especially in towns with few or inadequate defences. Others were built and maintained in strategic locations by the crown or its agents. Most of these structures take the form of a rectangular tower (hence the modern term 'tower house') of three to five storeys usually entered by a single door at ground level. Access to the upper floors was usually by a straight or spiral stair within the thickness of the walls or within a special stair turret. The upper floors provided accommodation and the principal rooms of the lord or chieftain were provided with larger windows. Lower down narrow windows or 'loops' gave little light and were intended mainly for defensive fire. Heating was by means of large open fires and simple sanitary arrangements consisted of a toilet chamber within the wall thickness set above a vertical chute which exited at an angle at a lower level (a *garderobe*) which could also function as a waste disposal outlet.

Outer defences consisting of a stoutly walled enclosure (called a *bawn*) may originally have been common but only occasionally survive.

2 THREECASTLES

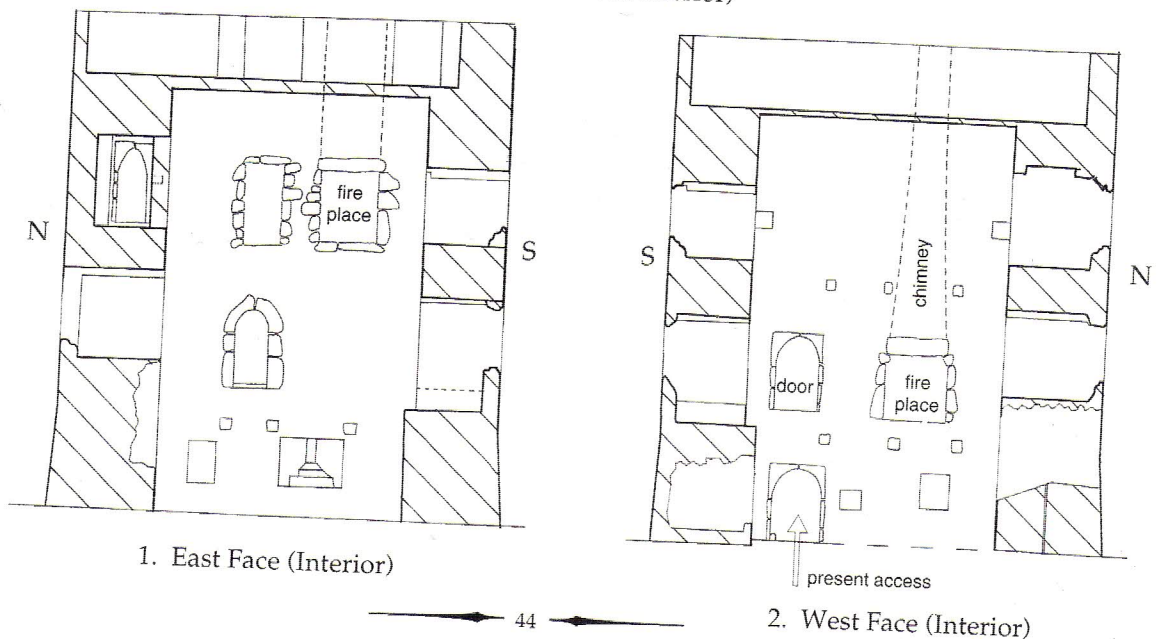
Tower House

Fig. 41

Access: located on the Blessington/Manor Kilbride road 3.8 km from Blessington in park beside road.

Rectangular *tower house* with projecting stair turret at north-east angle. Access to the tower was *via* a now destroyed western unit of similar structure to the surviving portion (note the projection of the northern and southern walls towards the north west and south west corners (See Drawing 3) and the remnants of a *barrel vault* in the west wall) (See Drawings 5 and 6). The door above the present entrance communicated between the first floors of both portions. In the surviving inner portion the *barrel vault* roofs the third floor (See Drawing 6). Ascent to the first floor appears to have been by ladder although a stairwell may have existed in the outer part of the tower. A large fireplace and a window with a pair of round-headed window openings with square decorative moulding on the first floor indicate that this was the main reception area (See Drawings 1 & 2). There is a *garderobe* with a chute in the stair turret within a chamber built into the thickness of the wall. Nothing is known of the history of the tower although the Fitzgeralds were defeated at a battle nearby in 1547. Two other castles, one nearby and the other on the opposite *bank* of the River Liffey, are reputed to have stood in the area.

SECTION (View from interior)



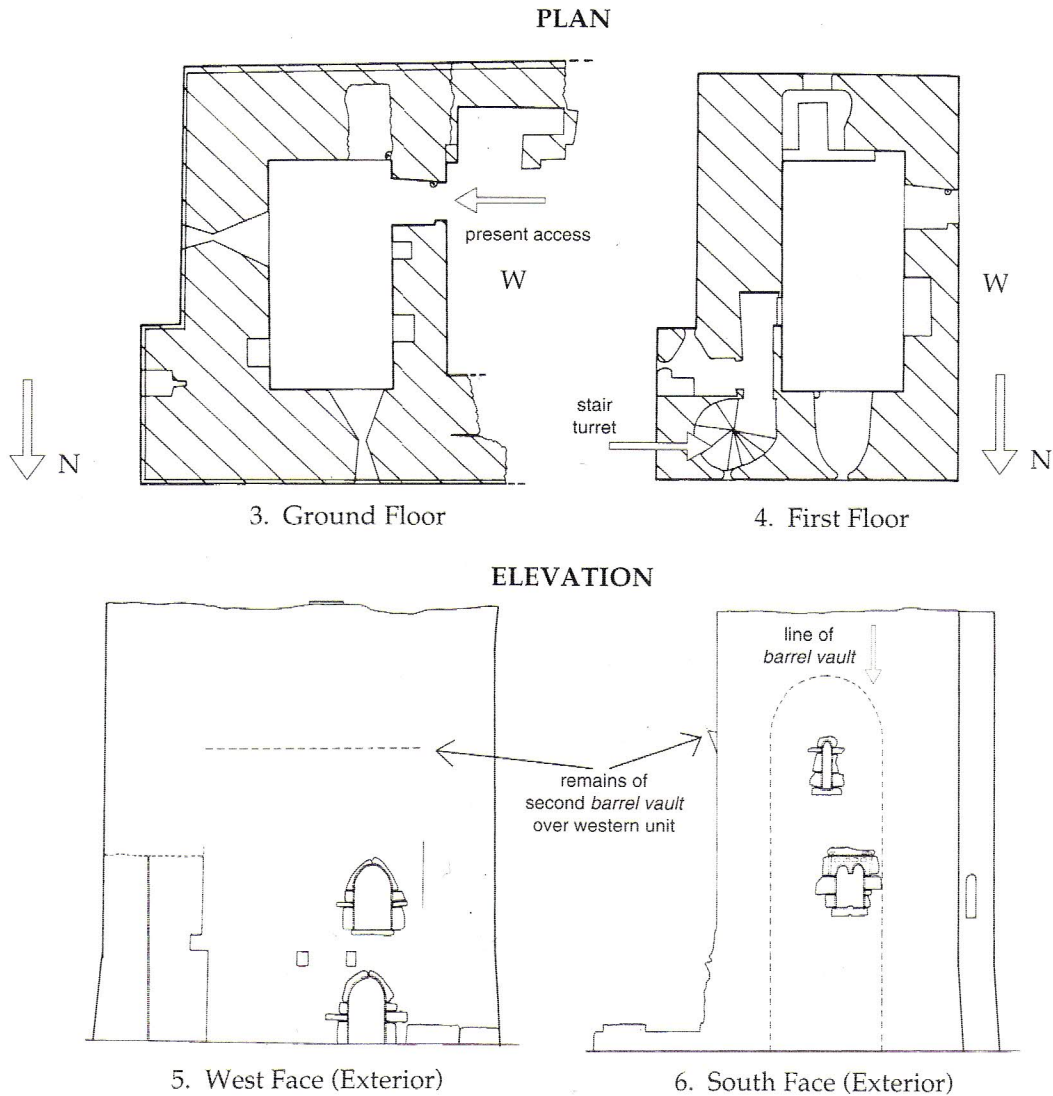


Fig. 41 Plan, section and elevation of Threecastles

3 BURGAGE MORE Tower House

Access: to end of lane from Blessington and through a gate. Follow the old road to the shore of the reservoir and the tower is on the right.

The small medieval borough of Burgage was founded on the site of an important early historic church belonging to the diocesan lands of Glendalough. A large solid ringed granite cross ("St. Mark's Cross") with a central *boss* (a small domed projection), similar to those at Clonmore, Co Carlow (see p. 48), part of a plain cross and a cross base (all removed to the nearby cemetery) indicate the wealth of the church. When the dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough were amalgamated in 1216 Burgage was run as an ecclesiastic manor and a small borough or town appears to have been associated with it from around 1250. The borough declined, and was probably abandoned, in the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century but a continued presence is indicated by the late fifteenth century *tower house*. To the north of the tower within a rectangular graveyard are the foundations of the medieval parish church.

The tower consists of a simple rectangular building originally of four storeys of which only parts of the lower three survive. The west facade is largely intact. The remnants of fireplaces, chimneys and *garderobe* can be seen within the tower as well as the sockets and projecting pad-stones used to support the timbers of the upper floors. At the north-east angle of a wall projecting out from the tower would have enclosed a *bawn*.

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9 OLDCOURT (Rathdown Barony) Tower House

Fig. 42

A rectangular tower of *uncoursed rubble* with *dressed granite* and *limestone quoins* (7.85m by 5m externally and c 21m high) on a natural platform forming the summit of a slight knoll overlooking the steep sides of a stream valley to the east. The tower has four stories with a spiral stairwell leading from the second to the fourth floors in the north-west angle. There is apparently no access to the tower at ground level. On the north side there is a projecting wall stump, probably the remains of a single storey entrance tower; access was *via* this through a first floor passage in the thickness of the wall through the north-west angle and thence to a round headed doorway on the west side. A rectangular doorway beside the passage entrance in the north face may not be original. *Barrel vaulting*, aligned east to west occurs at ground and first floor levels. There are *ogee-headed chamfered* windows with *glazing bar holes* on the second floor levels in the east and south faces; all other openings are simple rectangles.

A *bawn* stood to the west and south of the tower and the wall enclosing it was attached at the north-west and south-west corners. The entrance to the *bawn* was between two circular gate towers (the south-eastern one stands to a height of 2.5m). In the seventeenth century a rectangular gabled house was attached to the west side of the tower - the line of the east gable is visible in the west face. The house appears to have measured 7.85m by 16m and used the foundations of the *bawn* as part of its northern wall.

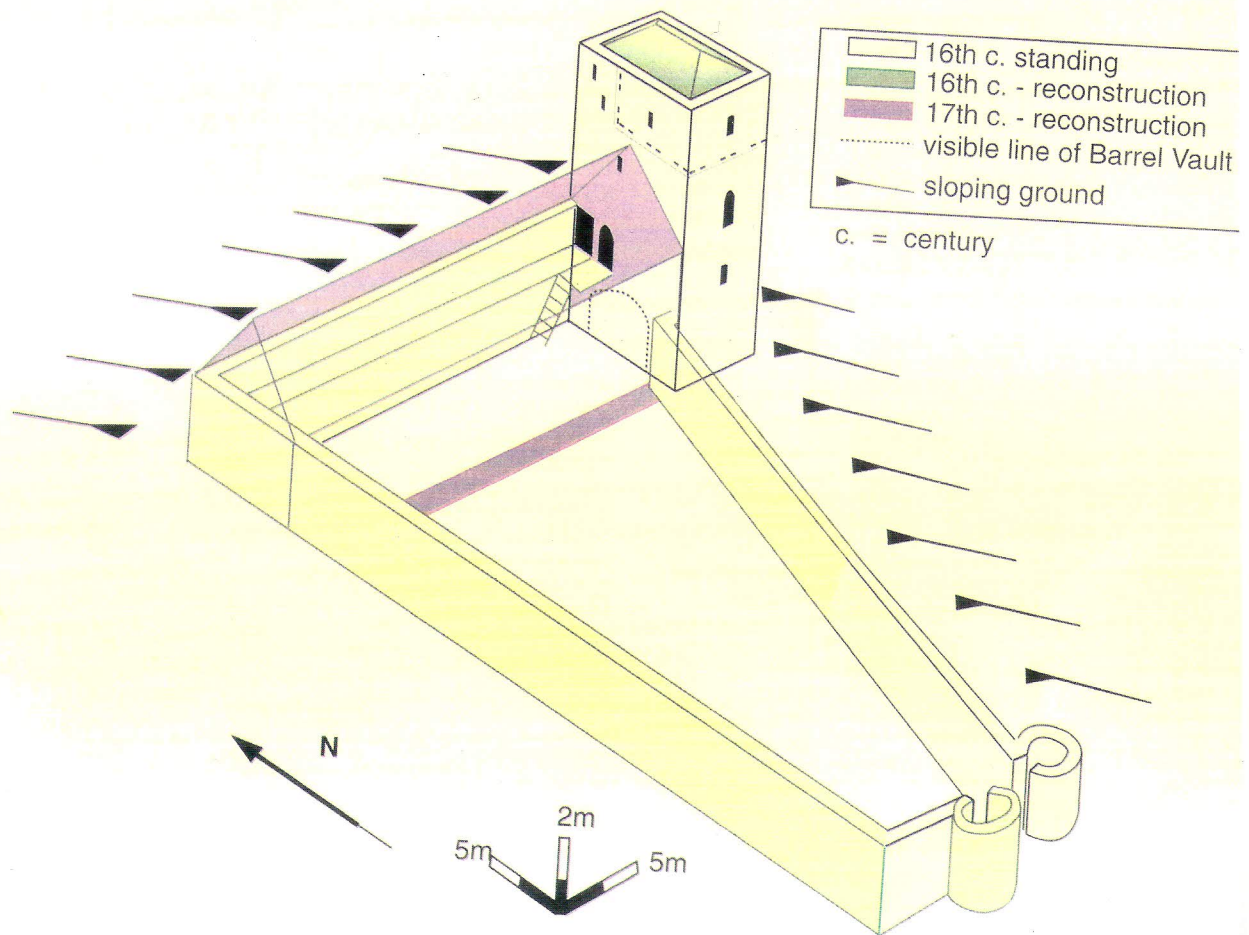


Fig. 42 Reconstruction drawing of the Tower House at Oldcourt

13 KINDLESTOWN UPPER Tower House/Hall

Access: on Delgany/Blacklion/Greystones road, along private driveway and across fence.

The site, named after its reputed builder Albert de Kenly who was sheriff of Kildare in 1301, consists of a rectangular *tower house*/hall (21m long and 9.80m wide) of roughly *coursed rubble*, of which only the north wall remains largely intact. The hall has two stories with a *barrel vault* (running east to west) on the ground floor. Above this the surviving north wall is stepped inward to support the first storey floor above the vault (*i.e.* independent of the vault). Towers occur at the north-west and north-east angles and project (0.60m) from the wall; that at the north-east has collapsed but the stairwell leading from the ground floor to a passage in the thickness of the wall at first floor level in the north wall is still visible. A chamber occurs in the north-west tower at this level with a cross-loop in the west wall. There are two *garderobe* chutes in the north face of this tower and a third immediately beneath the projection between it and the north wall of the hall. There are four internally rounded window openings in the north wall on the first floor narrowing to simple rectangular windows. The hall is probably of fourteenth century date.

The hall stands at the east end of a rectangular ditched enclosure (*c* 52m long and *c* 18m wide internally). The *ditch* extends 29m to the west beyond the hall and turns south to the adjacent field boundary. There is no indication of the entrance.

Newman-Johnston 1991, 190

34 DUNGANSTOWN WEST Fortified house

Access: along private driveway towards farmyard.

The lands at Dunganstown are reputed to have belonged to the Knights Templar and on the suppression of the order passed to the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. The property was in possession of a Dublin merchant called Dungan in 1542. Subsequently the estates were granted to John Hoey in 1597. Hoey, who was the king's Sergeant-at Arms, received further lands in the area from James I in 1605.

The 'castle' is an early seventeenth century AD fortified house probably built by John Hoey. It consists of an oblong block of three storeys and an attic. It has a three bay gabled front with taller projecting towers on either side and a stair tower at the rear. The house had a *bawn* at front and rear with a central gate tower facing the house. Dunganstown appears to have been destroyed in the 1640s (during the Cromwellian wars) and was certainly in ruins by 1654-58. The tower of the nearby church may also belong to the early seventeenth century.

47 CARNEW Tower House

Access: in Carnew, through private gate directly off the street. Please note the tower forms part of a private residence.

Substantial *tower house* of the sixteenth century to which several more recent additions have been made. The *tower house* consists of the main tower and a large adjoining turret which forms one angle of the present building. The modern entrance, in the angle between the *tower house* and the turret, is the original doorway into the tower. To the right of the entrance at the second floor level is a projecting *machioliation*, while *garderobe* chutes are visible in the external face of the tower on the opposite side.

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Castles

11 RATHDOWN UPPER

Castle (site of)

Fig. 29

Access: see site 12, page 33, "St. Crispin's Cell". Read in conjunction with Fig. 29, page 33.

The manor of Rathdown was in the possession of the MacDermot family who had remained loyal to the Anglo-Normans because of their relationship to Dermot MacMurrough, king of Leinster who had invited the Normans into Ireland. An ancestor of the family had married Dermot's daughter and the family continued loyal to the Anglo-Normans until it was replaced by Nigel le Brun in 1308. The *earthworks* were constructed in the thirteenth century and the castle may also have been constructed at this time, both as a protection against the other Gaelic families. In 1301 Rathdown was taken and burnt by the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles. Intermittent warfare continued in the area until the late fifteenth century when the area was in possession of the earls of Kildare. A castle, granted to Peter Talbot by Henry VIII, still stood on the site in 1536 but it is uncertain when these fortifications had been erected. The castle was in ruins by 1654-58 and was used as a source of building material during the construction of the railway in 1854-56. The medieval manor, formed around the nucleus of the castle, also contained a village (to the north north-west of the castle enclosure - ten 'cottages' still survived in 1657) and a church (see site 12 page 33) while an extensive field system occurred in the immediate vicinity.

There are no visible remains of the castle of which one square tower survived in the early nineteenth century. The *earthworks* surrounding the castle, probably representing an earlier phase of fortification, consist of a sub-square enclosure (43m by 43m) defined by a *ditch* (6m wide and 0.80m deep) with a well-defined *causeway* (7m wide) mid-way along the north side. The *ditch* survives on the north side of the lane which cuts across the southern side of the site; to the south of the lane the continuation of the *ditch* and the south-west corner of the enclosure show clearly in aerial photography. An outer *ditch* (3m wide) occurs 14m outside the inner one and this also has a northern entrance gap (7m wide) opposite the inner *causeway*. This continued to the south of the laneway where it joined a narrow stream gully at the south-west edge of the site. Although no trace of them survive substantial earthen *banks* would have occurred along the inner edge of the *ditches*. Further *cropmarks* indicating an associated field system occur to the north north-west of the castle enclosure while *scarps* and *ditches* define the east side of another system between the castle site and the church of 'St Crispin's Cell' (site 12 page 33) to the south-west. Further fields and associated buildings occur to the west of the church.

23d Wicklow

Castle ('The Black Castle')

see page 36

41 ARKLOW

Castle

see page 37

48 CLONMORE, Co. Carlow

Castle

Access: in Clonmore village on the Tullow road; through gate and across field for about 30m (please remember to close the gate going in and coming out).

Roughly square castle with towers at the four corners and some internal buildings discernible on the eastern side. The castle dates to the late thirteenth century. It was captured by the Earl of Kildare (1516), the Earl of Ormond (1598) and by the Cromwellian forces in 1650.

To the east of the castle in the adjacent graveyard, the site of the early medieval monastery founded by St. Mogue, is a plain high cross and fragments of another on the opposite side of the road (see also Glendalough and Burgage More, Sites 21 and 3).

31 DERRYNAMUCK Dwyer-Macallister Cottage

Access: along path for about 300m, through farmyard, signposted.

Following the 1798 rising one of the leaders, Michael Dwyer and a small group of men, was trapped in his cottage by the English. The bravery of one of Dwyer's comrades, Sam Macallister, who was killed in a diversionary tactic allowed his escape. The cottage is furnished in the style of the period.

36 CRONEBANE ("The Mottee Stone")

Access: signposted on Avoca/Rathdrum road to right beyond the Meeting of the Waters; up trackway to summit of hilltop.

A large natural glacially deposited granite boulder (2.40m high by 4.30m long and 3.20m wide). There are iron rungs imbedded in the near vertical west face of the stone. A small triangular hole occurs in the top of the stone - the age and purpose of the hole are unknown although it may be associated with the eighteenth century AD mapping of the area. There are impressive and extensive views of the surrounding countryside from the hill summit.

49 KNOCKANANNA Local Museum

Access: in the village.

The small museum contains a large collection of local folklife as well as some antiquities including a polished stone axe from Ballybrack (below), a saddle quern (a dished stone used for grinding corn from the Neolithic period), and part of a later rotary quern.

The Irish Stone Axe Project (Department of Archaeology, University College, Dublin) would be very pleased to hear of any stone axes, or fragments of axes, from the Wicklow area.

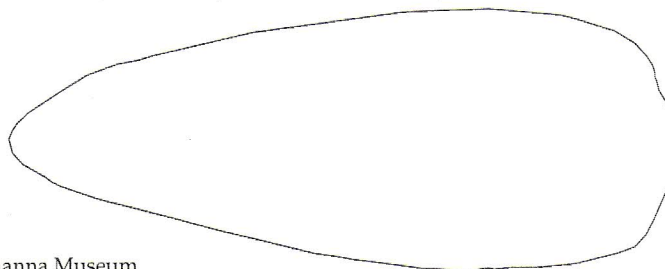


Fig. 43 Stone axe from Knockananna Museum

5 centimetres

50 KILLAVENY Toberpatrick ('St. Patrick's Well')

Access: in Killaveny beyond Hayden's farmyard on the Toberpatrick road.

A natural spring encased in a wall of unmortared stone associated in local tradition with St. Patrick.

Many wells or springs in Wicklow have associations with saints and became focal points for annual activities, both religious and social, usually held on the festival day of the saint. These "patterns" usually involved a series of prayers and other actions, such as processions. Often the waters of the well or spring were, and in some cases still are, believed to have curative powers frequently effective for particular ailments.

Archaeological Trails

SECTION 8

1. The north west - Blessington area

2	THREecastLES	Tower house	O 011 156
3	BURgAGE MORE	Tower house/high cross/medieval town	N 976 123
4	CARRIG	Early Bronze Age burial site	N 998 122
5	SCURLOCKSLEAP ('Seefin')	Passage tomb	O 073 162
15	ATHGREANY ('The Piper's Stones')	Ceremonial circle	N 930 032
16	DRUMREAGH	Ringfort	N 936 025

2. The west - Baltinglass area

17	KILBAYLET LOWER	Ringforts	N 934 198
18	DEER PARK	Ringfort	N 925 959
19	CASTLERUDDERY LOWER	Ceremonial circle	N 915 942
20	CASTLERUDDERY LOWER	Motte	N 918 939
24	BRUSSELSTOWN	Hillfort, hut sites	S 925 912
25	SPINANS HILL	Cairns	S 921 913
26	'Rathnagree'	Hillfort	S 880 900
27	'Rathcoran'	Hillfort	S 844 928
28	Baltinglass Hill	Passage tomb	S 885 189
29	PINNACLE (Baltinglass Hill)	Ringfort	S 881 893
30	BALTINGLASS EAST	Cistercian Abbey	S 867 888

3. The south west

38	LISCOLMAN	Ringfort	S 904 747
39	RATH EAST ('Rathgall')	Hillfort	S 902 731
43	AGHOWLE	Church/font/bullaun	S 931 693
44	MOYLISHA	Wedge tomb	S 930 675
45	MOYLISHA	Ringfort	S 931 665
46	KILCAVAN UPPER	Ringfort	T 038 660
47	CARNEW	Tower house	T 014 630
48	CLONMORE, Co. Carlow	Castle	S 961 761

4. The south east - Arklow area

40	BARNACLEAGH EAST	Ringfort	T 200 734
41	ARKLOW	Castle/Viking and medieval town	T 248 732
42	JOHNSTOWN SOUTH	Ringfort	T 262 771
36	CRONEBANE	'Mottee Stone'	T 206 832
37	CASTLETIMON	Ogham stone	T 298 854
34	DUNGANSTOWN WEST	Fortified house	T 282 866
35	KILBOY	Ringfort	T 263 871

5. The centre east - Wicklow - Rathdrum area and Glendalough

32	BAHANA	Church	T 212 895
33	TULLYLUSK	Ringfort	T 226 876
21	Glendalough	Monastic complex	O 12 97
22	CASTLEKEVIN	Moated site	O 183 985
23	Wicklow	Castle, friary, church, motte	O 31 99

6. The north east - Bray - Greystones area

1	KILLEGAR	Church/cross slabs	O 214 187
6	FASSAROE	St Valery's Cross	O 243 177
7	KILCRONEY	Church	O 244 166
8	BALLYREMON COMMONS	Early Bronze Age Barrow	O 219 124
9	OLDCOURT	Tower House	O 259 175
10	NEWCOURT	Church	O 276 176
11	RATHDOWN UPPER	Castle	O 288 136
12	RATHDOWN UPPER	Church (St. Crispin's Cell) Medieval Complex	O 286 135
13	KINDLESTOWN UPPER	Castle	O 279 211
14	KILCOOLE	Church/font	O 297 080

Suggested Reading

General works

- Cooney, G. and Grogan, E. 1993 *Prehistoric Ireland: a social perspective*, Dublin (forthcoming).
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Glossary

- Ante The projection of the side walls beyond the gables of some early churches.
- Ante chamber End chamber of tomb.
- Arcades A series of arches on columns or piers.
- Architrave Plain or decorative moulding around a door or window opening.
- Bailey A low platform at the foot of a *motte* used principally as an enclosure for domestic quarters and shelter for animals.
- Bank Linear pile or ridge of earth used to enclose an area, for example a *ringfort*.
- Barrel Vault A vault (arched structure of masonry) usually forming a ceiling or roof. The barrel consists of a semi cylinder shaped roof.
- Barrow A large *mound* of earth or stones over the remains of the dead.
- Batter Receding upward slope of outer face of a wall.
- Bawn Walled enclosure around a castle or tower house forming a defended yard.
- Bevel The angle that one surface or line makes with another when they are not at right angles.
- Boss A small domed projection.
- Bullaun(s) Blocks of uncut natural stone into which circular or oval basins have been carved. Their function is uncertain - they may have been used as holy water or baptismal fonts or for the grinding of corn - but they are concentrated at or near monastic sites of the early historic period.
- Burgages Plots of land within a town with certain privileges granted to encourage settlers.
- Cairns Mounds of stone.
- Capitals The head or top of columns which support the arches.
- Capstone A large stone or slab covering a megalithic tomb.
- Causeway An undug gap between the terminals or ends of a ditch which allows access into the interior of an enclosed site, e.g. a *ringfort*.
- Ceremonial circle For comprehensive description see pages 12 - 14.
- Chamfer The cut or bevelled edge of stone-work.
- Chancel The eastern portion of a church where the altar is situated. Often a separate compartment or unit within the body of the church. The *chancel* arch is that which separates the *nave* from the *chancel*.
- Cinerary urns Larger pottery vessels placed in graves and used as containers for bone, usually turned upside down over the remains.
- Cist Slab lined, usually rectangular, pit in which the remains of the dead were deposited in the Bronze Age. The *cist* usually had a *capstone* and was floored using a single slab or rough paving.
- Cloister A walkway forming a square.
- Corbel Stone projecting from wall which supports beams, rafters or oversailing masonry.
- Corbelled Method of roofing (in this case in megalithic tombs) whereby each successive course of stone slabs oversails the one beneath to gradually form a domed roof.
- Coursed rubble Method of building using uncut and largely undressed stone laid in regular courses.
- Cropmark The outline of a levelled site visible, usually only from the air, through the differences in the colour of the vegetational cover.
- Ditch A substantial dug trench often the source of material for a *bank* or *mound*.
- Dressed Roughly faced and shaped stone.
- Earthworks Constructions made of earth.
- Erratic Boulder moved by glacial action from its place of origin.
- Faience A glass-like substance.
- Flanking Located at side of building or object.
- Food vessel Pottery vessel which stood upright beside the body on the floor of a grave.
- Funerary Activity associated with burial.
- Garderobe A medieval lavatory.
- Glazing bar holes Holes in the jambs of windows which supported the rods used to fix panes of glass in position.
- Hillforts Large hilltop enclosures built from end of Late Bronze Age to Iron Age.
- Inhume Burial of unburnt human remains.
- In situ In the natural or original position.
- Interlace Decorative system using intertwined strands in a complex pattern.

Keep	The strongest and securest part of a medieval castle sometimes consisting of a separate building within the castle walls.
Kerb	Continuous ring of large stones around a <i>mound</i> or <i>cairn</i> .
Lintel	A horizontal stone covering a doorway.
Lozenge-motifs	Diamond-shaped designs.
Macehead	Elaborate stone hammer used as a weapon.
Machiolation	A hole in the floor of an overhanging defensive feature such as a turret or parapet allowing missiles to be dropped on attackers.
Megalithic tomb	Burial monument belonging mainly to the Neolithic (New Stone Age) constructed of large stones.
Motif	A single or repeated design or colour.
Motte	High steep sided mound surmounted by a timber tower with a stockade around the summit perimeter.
Mound	Pile of earth, or earth and stones, usually circular in shape used, for example, to cover prehistoric burials.
Nave	The main, western, portion of a church often a separate compartment unit from the <i>chancel</i> .
Niche	A recess in a wall.
Ogee-headed	Arch over a window with an onion shaped head.
Ogham	An early historic script based on the Roman alphabet.
Orthostat	Upright block of stone used to form the sides of chambers or passages in megalithic tombs.
Outlier	An associated standing stone that is situated away from main circle.
Pecking	Method of decorating or dressing the structural stones of passage tombs. Small flakes of stone were removed from the surface using stone tools. The individual pick or pock marks were combined to form the overall design.
Platform fort	A <i>ringfort</i> constructed by forming a raised and flat topped central area, rather than an encircling <i>bank</i> , with the spoil from the surrounding <i>ditch</i> .
Plinth	Foundation platform on which a building is constructed.
Prostrate	Lying flat.
Querns	Simple hand mills for grinding corn.
Quoins	The stone blocks, set with their long and short sides alternating, forming the corners or angles of a building.
Ramp	A sloping way, for example leading up into the interior of a <i>platform fort</i> .
Rampart(s)	Substantial <i>bank</i> or wall of stone and /or earth forming the defences of a fortified site, such as a <i>hillfort</i> .
Rath	See <i>ringfort</i> .
Revetment	A retaining wall.
Ringfort	An enclosed dwelling or farmstead dating mainly to the period c 500 - 1200 A.D.
Romanesque	Style of architecture based ultimately on the Roman <i>barrel vault</i> which attained its zenith in Europe in the tenth century AD but was not fully represented in Ireland until the twelfth century.
Rotary quern	Circular stone rotated to grind corn.
Scarp	A sharp steep slope created by cutting into a natural slope used, for example, to enhance the defenses of a <i>ringfort</i> .
Sept	A branch of clan.
Sherds	Fragments of pottery vessels.
Tapering	Become gradually smaller towards one end.
Threshold	A horizontal piece of stone forming the bottom of a doorframe (sill stone).
Tower house	A medieval fortified castle.
Transept	The part of a cruciform church which represents the side arms, running north and south.
Trivallate	<i>Ringforts</i> or <i>hillforts</i> defended by three separate ramparts.
Uncoursed rubble	Method of building using uncut and largely undressed stone laid in rough or irregular courses.
Univallate	<i>Ringfort</i> or <i>hillfort</i> with a single line of defense.
Unperforated	Unholed.
Wedge-tomb	Burial monument constructed during the Late Neolithic - Early Bronze Age period and characterised by its wedge shape (narrowing and reducing in height from the front to the back).

List of sites by townland or local name

Townland	Site type	SMR No.*	NGR
AGHOWLE	Church/font/bullaun	42:19	S 931 693
ARKLOW	Castle, Viking and medieval town	40:29	T 248 732
ATHGREANY ('The Piper's Stones')	Ceremonial circle	15:10	N 930 032
BAHANA	Church	30:7	T 212 895
BALLYREMOM COMMONS	Early Bronze Age Barrow	7:43	O 219 124
BALTINGLASS EAST	Cistercian Abbey	27:24	S 867 888
Baltinglass Hill	Passage tomb	27:26A	S 885 189
BARNACLEAGH EAST	Ringfort	40:25	T 200 734
Brusselstown/Spinans Hill	Hillfort/hut sites	27:18	S 925 912
BURGAGE MORE	Tower house/high cross/medieval town	5:70	N 976 123
CARNEW	Tower house	47:9	T 014 630
CARRIG	Early Bronze Age burial site	5:84	N 998 122
CASTLEKEVIN	Moated site	24:3	O 183 985
CASTLERUDDERY LOWER	Ceremonial circle	21:32	N 915 942
CASTLERUDDERY LOWER	Motte	21:33	N 918 939
CASTLETIMON	Ogham stone	36:9	T 298 854
CLONMORE, Co. Carlow	Castle	-	S 961 761
CRONEBANE	'Mottee Stone'	35:17	T 206 832
DEERPARK	Ringfort	21:18	N 925 959
DERRYNAMUCK	Dwyer-Macallister Cottage	-	S 96 91
DRUMREAGH	Ringfort	15:27	N 936 025
DUNGANSTOWN WEST	Fortified house	31:23	T 282 866
FASSAROE	St Valery's Cross	7:26	O 243 177
Glendalough	Monastic complex	23	O 12 97
JOHNSTOWN SOUTH	Ringfort	41:5	T 262 771
KILBAYLET LOWER	Ringforts	15:65-6	N 934 198
KILBOY	Ringfort	31:21	T 263 871
KILCAVAN UPPER	Ringfort	47:7	T 038 660
KILCOOLE	Church/font	13:29	O 297 080
KILCRONEY	Church	7:30	O 244 166
KILLEGAR	Church/cross slabs	3:28	O 214 187
KINDLESTOWN UPPER	Castle	8:17	O 279 211
LISCOLMAN	Ringfort	37:7	S 904 747
MOYLISHA	Ringfort	42:47	S 931 665
MOYLISHA	Wedge tomb	42:36	S 930 675
NEWCOURT	Church	8:4	O 276 176
OLDCOURT	Tower House	8:2	O 259 175
PINNACLE (Baltinglass Hill)	Ringfort	27:25	S 881 893
'Rathcoran'	Hillfort	27:26	S 844 928
'Rathnagree'	Hillfort	27:10	S 880 900
RATH EAST ('Rathgall')	Hillfort	37:16	S 902 731
RATHDOWN UPPER	Castle	8:11	O 288 136
RATHDOWN UPPER	Church (St. Crispin's Cell) medieval complex	8:12	O 286 135
SCURLOCKSLEAP ('Seefin')	Passage tomb	6:3	O 073 162
Spinans Hill	Cairns	27:17	S 921 913
THREECASTLES	Tower house	5:31	O 011 156
TULLYLUSK	Ringfort	30:13	T 226 876
Wicklow	Castle, friary, church, motte	25:13	O 31 99

* Sites and Monuments Record, National Archaeological Survey, Office of Public Works

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