

KILDARE - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	St. Patrick's Well 1		
Other names used for site			
TOWNLAND(S)	Barretstown		
NEAREST TOWN	Naas		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	18		
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	282975 219195 = N 8298 1920		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	55	1/2 inch Sheet No.	16

Outline Site Description

A warm spring

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

N/A

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

This warm spring 5km west of Naas is almost completely covered by a holy well chamber, which was originally built in 1938 and later restored in 2004. Only one side of this chamber is open, allowing access to the warm spring. The depth of the water within this well is about 1m. The spring has a constant flow of water, which overflows into a drainage channel. This channel runs into the River Liffey approximately 40m southeast from this location. The substratum is composed of a thick layer of black organic mud littered with leaves and coins. Along the walls of the chamber deposits of calcite can be observed.

Site Importance

Although not one of the warmest, this spring is an important example of the warm spring province of the Kildare-Meath border area in north west Leinster, and deserves CGS status for that reason.

Management/promotion issues

St. Patrick's well is located within a graveyard and visitors are welcome to the site. Restoration work has been done on the spring recently and the chamber around the spring appears to be well maintained.



Left: St. Patrick's Well
Middle: Chamber covering well
Right: Drainage channel flowing into the Liffey

St. Patrick's Well 1

