

KERRY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Tubbrid, Kenmare
Other names used for site	
IGH THEME	IGH1 Karst, IGH16 Hydrogeology
TOWNLAND(S)	Tubbrid, Dunkerron, Claddanure West
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Kenmare
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	93
ITM CO-ORDINATES	489545E 570255N
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	78
GSi BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	20, 21
GIS CODE	KY083

Outline Site Description

A low-lying area of karst limestone springs, sinks and small caves on the northeastern shore of the Kenmare River.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The bedrock comprises Lower Carboniferous (Mississippian, 359-323 million years old) Waulsortian Limestone. This massive, unbedded limestone formation occupies the core of the Kenmare Syncline (U-shaped fold) that trends WSW-ENE from the inner part of the Kenmare River eastwards to Kilgarvan.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) First Edition 25" sheet (Kerry 93-09) indicates the location of a spring, 300 m southeast of Tubbrid House. The sheet also records the location of a number of disused lime kilns in Tubbrid Townland. These features reflect the importance of the local limestone as a source of lime minerals in this lime-poor region dominated by sandstone bedrock.

The OSI First Edition 6" sheet for the area also records the location of four caves along the Dunkerron tributary, which marks the Dunkerron-Claddanure West townland boundary. Irish Speleology Magazine (15) notes five karst features (Tubbrid 1, Tubbrid 3 rising, Tubbrid 4 swallet, Tubbrid 5 sink, and Tubbrid 6 open and tidal). Irish Speleology Magazine further notes that the karst system contains about 200 m of explorable passages.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

This is an important County Geological Site because of the karst features present, the most southerly in County Kerry.

Management/promotion issues

The site is situated on private property and is not suitable for promotion. The site is significant for research purposes only. The site lies partially within the Kenmare River SAC (site code 002158).



Outlet from Tubbrid Spring on east side of L7556 Tubbrid road.



Surface waters flowing from Tubbrid Spring southwards to the Kenmare River.

