

## TIPPERARY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Tincurry Sink
Other names used for site	
IGH THEME	IGH1 Karst, IGH16 Hydrogeology
TOWNLAND(S)	Garrycloher
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Caher
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	81
ITM CO-ORDINATES	602448E 622199N
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER 74	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 22

### Outline Site Description

The Tincurry River drainage off Slieveanard, at the northeastern end of the Galtee Mountains sinks into the bedrock at Garrycloher Townland at the margins of Garrycloher Wood.

### Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The karstic drainage is presumed to be post-glacial or Holocene in age, developed in the past 11,500 years or so since the area was heavily glaciated.

### Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The river and its sink are not especially large but are an important contributor to the Roaring Wells site. The water drains an upland area within the Galtee Mountains and flows as a surface river into the lowland valley towards the River Suir and Ardfinnan. The river is probably flowing on glacial till in the valley area, but at Garrycloher it sinks into bedrock and disappears from the surface.

Recent description and investigation by caver, Peter Barry, suggests that the sink is migrating steadily southward within the glacial sediment overlying limestone, with small collapses occurring in the field to the south of the road, especially at times of flooding of these fields following high rainfall events.

It is presumed to provide much of the diffuse flow into the Roaring Well system. No water tracing experiments are known of, which have confirmed this.

### Site Importance – County Geological Site; recommended for Geological NHA

In itself it is a good example of a sinking river in karst terrain, but only of County Geological Site status. However, when linked to the Roaring Wells site, already proposed to the National Parks and Wildlife Service as a geological NHA under IGH1 Karst Theme, it adopts that linked importance.

### Management/promotion issues

As an active drainage system it should not be interfered with but will probably continue to modify its own development through time, perhaps migrating further southward through collapse of thin glacial sediments into karstic voids in the limestone below.



The main sink is in the trees.



The main sink viewed from the roadside.



The main sink is spread along a stretch.



The stream bank at the northern part.



The sink stretch is along the visible trees.



The sinking stream is heavily overgrown.



