

CARLOW - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Kilcarrary Mine		
Other names used for site			
TOWNLAND(S)	Craan		
NEAREST TOWN	Kildavin		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER			
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	289300 162900		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	61	1/2 inch Sheet No.	19

Outline Site Description

A disused mine or mine trial adit.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The mine adit is within schists of the Maulin Formation (Ordovician) adjacent to the contact with the Tullow Pluton of the Leinster Granite. Age and type of mineralisation is not clear.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The mine adit goes in perpendicular to the river bank for approximately 35m, where there is a flooded shaft, although it looks as if it is only a metre or two deep. There is about 5m of adit beyond the shaft and a 5m drive to the right at the shaft. The fragmentary drill holes in the roof look very smooth and as if they have been drilled with a mechanical drill, suggesting it is a more modern adit, rather than an 18th century or early 19th century work with hand drilled effort. There are some quartz vein remnants in the slightly wider adit mouth, but no obvious signs of other mineralisation. It is only speculative as to what was mined, if anything, and it could have been simply an exploratory trial, rather than a productive mine. No extant records have been identified in the GSI mine records, nor any mention of this adit on 19th century geological fieldsheets, again suggesting it postdates 1890 or so. It is only about 10m from the nearest granite outcrop, so is probably associated with mineralisation associated with intrusion of the granite. The 19th century fieldsheet suggests that it is within a schist and granite intermingled outcrop.

Site Importance

The site is of some local and historical interest, but is not important.

Management/promotion issues

As it is short and unspectacular this mine is not really suitable for promotion. Also the land ownership and access situation along the riverbank to access it may be an issue as it is on private farmland.

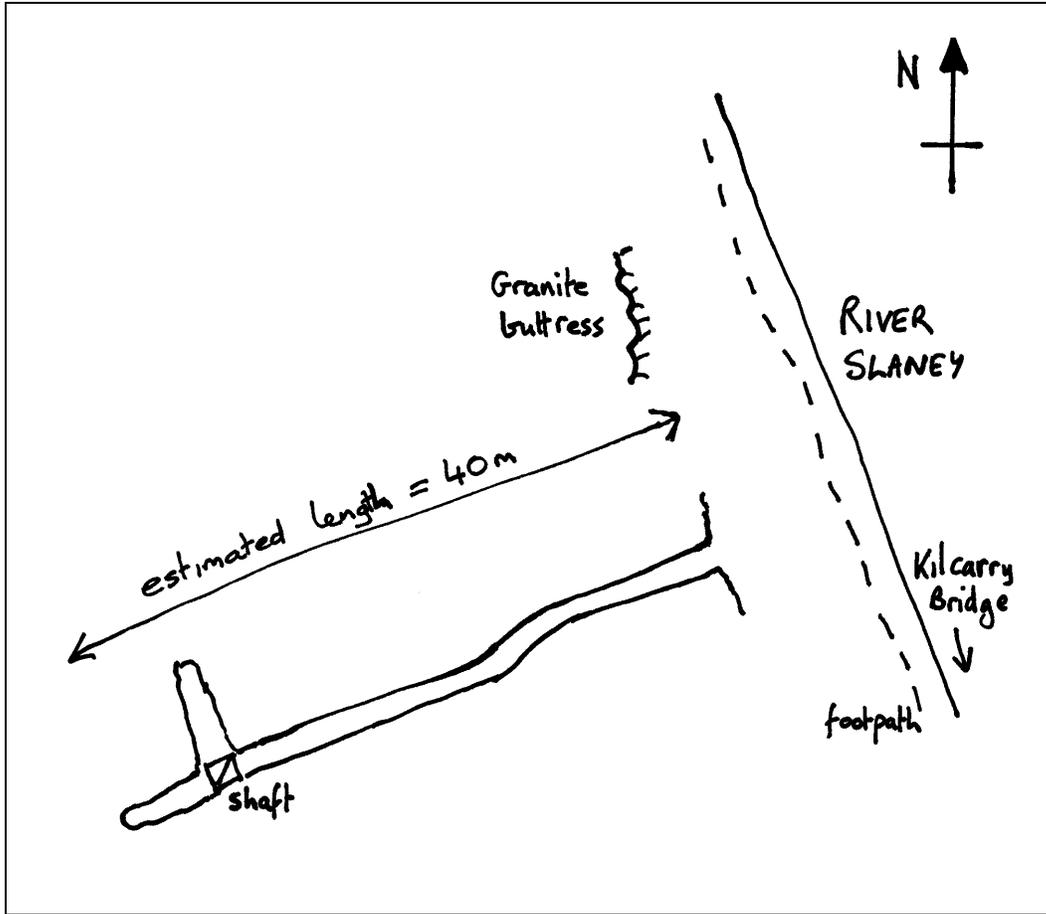


Far left: the nearest granite buttness by the mine.

Left: view into the mine adit from the entrance. White helmet of person returning is visible top centre.



Enlarged extract of GSI 6 inch to the mile 19th century fieldsheet, showing probable mine location within the granite outcrop (coloured pinky red), where granite and schists (coloured purple) are intermixed.



Sketch survey of mine working.