

KILDARE - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Louisa Bridge Cold Spring		
Other names used for site	Louisa Bridge Spa		
TOWNLAND(S)	Leixlip		
NEAREST TOWN	Leixlip		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	11		
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	299450 236630 = N9945 3663		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	50	1/2 inch Sheet No.	16

Outline Site Description

A cold spring associated with a warm spring formerly used as a spa.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Presumably derived from shallow bedrock or Quaternary deposits.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Temperatures at Louisa Bridge cold spring have been recorded in the past as ranging between 6 and 14°C (Burdon 1983). The spring is characterised by a generally low flow rate, with long periods during the summer when there is no flow. With such low flow rates, the water temperature is controlled to some extent by ambient air temperature, accounting for the seasonal variation in water temperatures. The maximum temperatures occur in August and September and minimum recorded in February and March (Burdon 1983). The spring pool covered a surface area of approximately 20 m².

Site Importance

As part of the Louisa Bridge spring complex and spa it is certainly worthy of CGS status.

Management/promotion issues

The site has been significantly cleared up after major abuse when used as a halting site. The cold spring pool is heavily vegetated and the structure could do with some clearance (right hand photo below is from c.1983 showing the structure clearly). The water quality appears to be poor, with some litter. On the assumption that it is on Kildare County Council land, it is clearly an ongoing problem to maintain the site in a reasonable state. Alternatively if a local group is clearing it up occasionally, CGS recognition and Council support may be effective in keeping the site clean.



Louisa Bridge Cold Spring

