

KILDARE - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	St. Peter's Well		
Other names used for site			
TOWNLAND(S)	Dunmurraghill		
NEAREST TOWN	Prosperous		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	9		
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	281905 233080 = N 8191 3308		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	49	1/2 inch Sheet No.	16

Outline Site Description

Warm spring

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

N/A

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

This site is located at the base of St. Peter's Hill in Dunmurraghill, approximately 6km north of Prosperous town. This warm spring is found in what appears to be a collapsed well chamber, which has only one, rather non-intact side remaining. Water from the spring flows into the surrounding field from the open side of the well. This may once have been an overflow channel but there is not enough evidence to verify this. The water depth is approximately 0.2 - 0.5m and the substratum is composed of a thick layer of black organic mud and decomposing plant material. To the east of this site on the far slopes of St. Peter's Hill there is an sand and gravel quarry, which exposes the glacial till that covers this area.

Site Importance

Aldwell and Burdon (1986) record a maximum temperature of 12.4° in 1982, making it a relatively low temperature warm spring. It is also in poor condition. Despite this it should be considered as a County Geological Site in Kildare, as a part of the warm spring province.

Management/promotion issues

St. Peter's Well is located within a privately owned field (owner unknown – seems to be local confusion regarding ownership). The entrance to the field has a small sign saying St. Peter's Well, which suggests visitors to this site are not uncommon. Access is along a small winding road with a few houses nearby where parking is possible. This site is badly maintained and would need some degree of renovation if it were to be promoted. Not suitable for general promotion without permission from the landowner and appropriate arrangements organised.



Left: St. Peter's Well.
Right: Sand and gravel quarry adjacent to well

St. Peter's Well

