

The Quaternary of South East Ireland

Field Guide

Edited by G. McGlynn and B. Stefanini

Quaternary Research Association

Irish Quaternary Association

2015

Cover Image: Marine platform and overlying raised beach deposits, Courtmacsherry Bay, County Cork. Photograph: Colm Ó Cofaigh, 2006.

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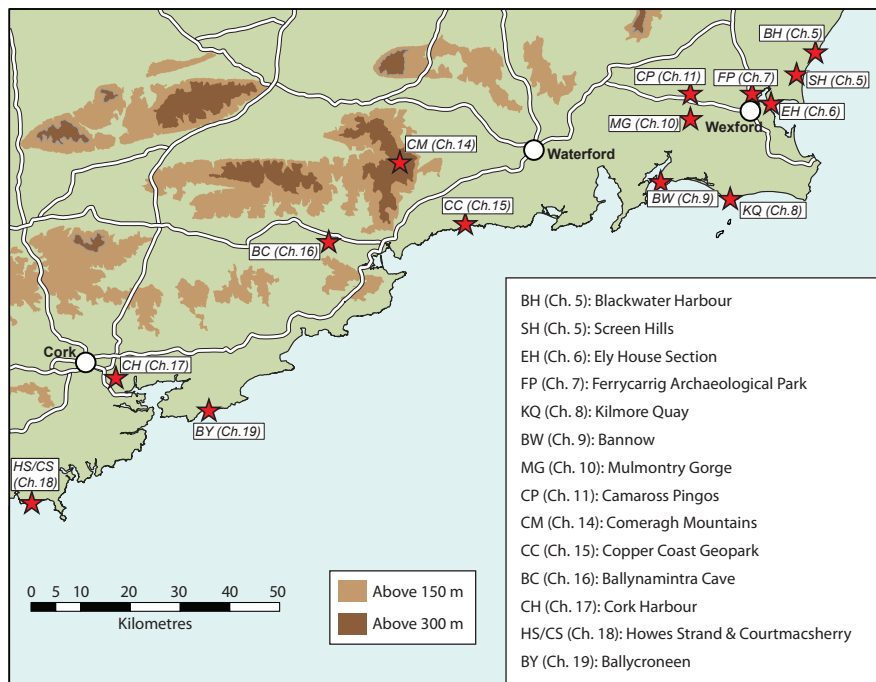
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Location map



Map showing the locations referred to in this field guide.

The field sites are covered by the sheets 69, 77, 76, 75, 82, 81 and 87 of the 1:50,000 OSI Discovery Series Maps.

Preface

This field guide has been produced to accompany the combined Irish Quaternary Association and Quaternary Research Association field excursion to south east Ireland, 25th-29th September 2015. Both organisations have a long history of running field excursions with accompanying field guides. We are delighted to collaborate on this venture that brings together a large body of new data and data pulled together for the first time from disparate sources to tell the fascinating story of the Quaternary of south east Ireland.

The region is unique in its rich glacial history which has left a range of tantalising clues in the landscape, explored and contested for over a century. The shallow seas separating the south east from the landmass of Britain and beyond has acted as both a barrier and a corridor, regulating colonisation after the end of the last glaciation and later facilitating cultural exchange and Viking settlement. Several key sites are covered in detail in this guide, and the wide range of topics covered, from raised beach sediments to grain-drying kilns, attests to the area's rich and diverse history. Furthermore, in the face of anticipated environmental change, Quaternary records like the ones presented in this guide can help to point the way into otherwise uncharted territory.

*Gayle McGlynn and Bettina Stefanini
Dublin, August 2015*



**Fieldwork in the
Comeragh Mountains,
Co. Waterford.
Photograph: Bettina
Stefanini, July 2014.**

Acknowledgements

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