

Geomorphology and Exploration of Poulmagree, Co. Clare, Ireland

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Abstract:

Exploration in this cave between 1997 and 2000 has trebled its length. The discovery of a bypass to Sump1 and a further 2 km of stream passage beyond the sumps is described. A tentative reconstruction of the geomorphic history of the cave suggests that it has had a long history, in that it was active prior to the glacial processes which truncated the overlying plateau at its southern end, producing the Oughtdarra basin and cliffs. Subsequent rejuvenation has begun to deepen the cave at its downstream end by headward erosion.