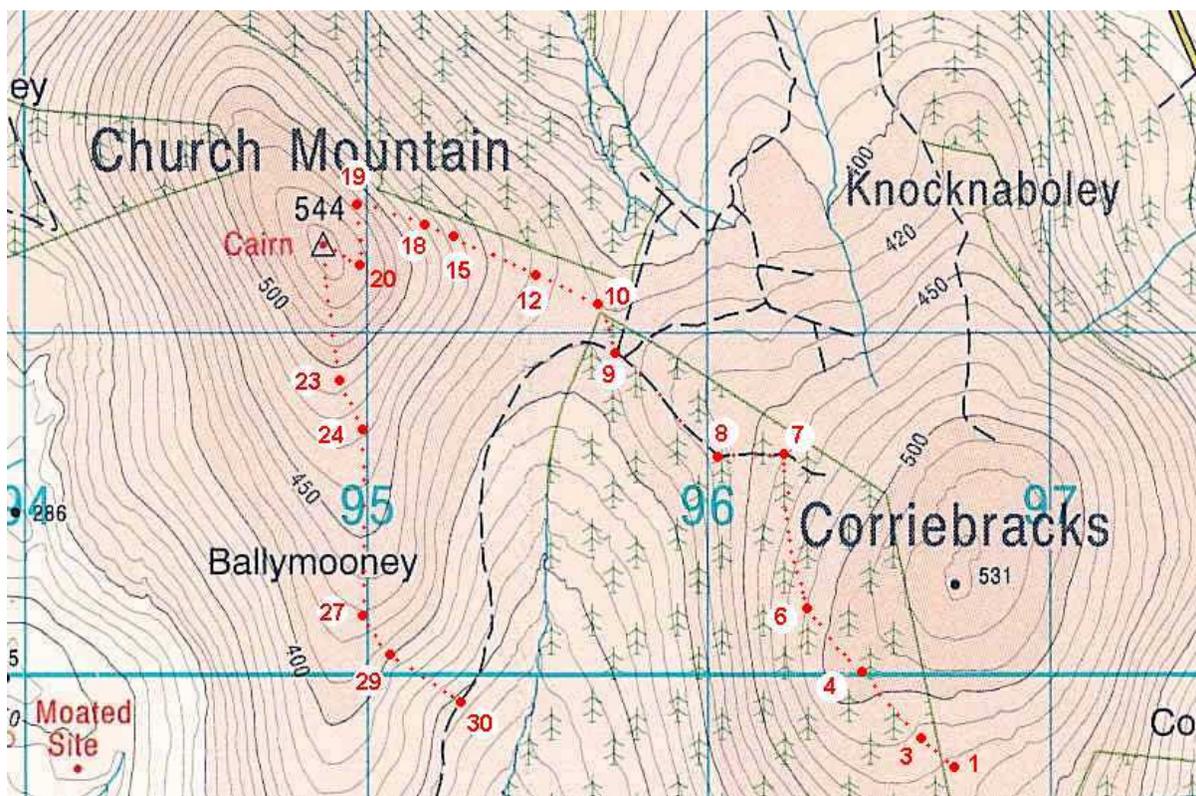


Wicklow Mountains Path Survey

Corriebracks Church Mtn.	
Start to Finish:	S 96709 99743 to S 95266 99906
Altitude (lowest – highest):	350m – 544m
Weather:	Sunny, dry, strong wind
Access:	Snugborough Bridge, Donard
Surveyed by:	John Monaghan 19 / 6 / 03



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Abbreviations used:

- pw = path width
- tape = measuring tape set to 0.5m or 1m in a photograph for scale
- NSEW = North, South, East, West
- pic = photograph
- avg = average

No	Pos Irish Grid S & N	Comments / Photographs
1	96709 99743	<p>Start south of Corriebracks top where the path turns left at the NE corner of the forest; Note: the forest boundary here, as shown on the OS Sheet 56 map, seems to be incorrect (see sketch below)</p> <p>there are two or more indistinct single file paths on broken peat / heather from the indistinct top of Corriebracks to this point</p>
2	same	<p>deep (30cm) tyre tracks in the soft peat; path width = 4m; new parallel paths forming up on the heather to the right</p>
3	96624 99833	<p>pic 24v looking back towards the corner shows deep ruts in the peat; tape = 1m</p> 
4	96463 00008	<p>wet area (water pool, sphagnum moss) where three fences meet; walkers getting by on new path up on the heather to the right</p> <p>the track from here is 4-5m wide and more stony; no extra path on the heather; Church Mtn now visible ahead</p>

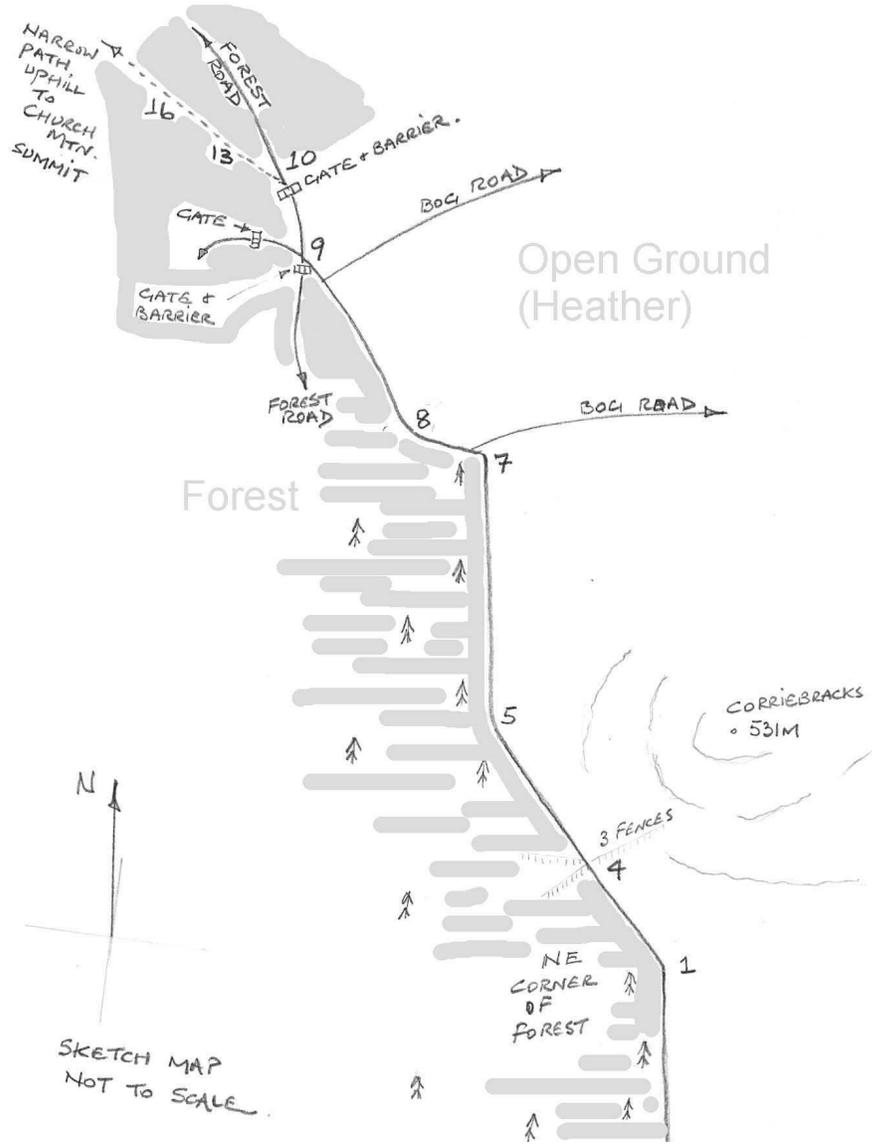
5		track turns right, still at the edge of the forest; surface again more peaty; no forest to the right as shown on the map and noted at the start
6	96280 00190	<p>pic25 looking ahead towards Slieve Corragh, east slopes of Church Mtn at top left, shows the mixed nature of the track, peat and stone; tape = 1m; path width = 4m</p>  <p>the track now travels almost due N. a long straight section</p>
7	96213 00626	track turns left at forest corner; bog road from the upper slopes of Corriebracks comes in sharply from the right to join it

8	96044 00633	<p>track turns right; pic26 at the turn, looking ahead; width = 2m; Church Mtn ahead through the trees</p>  <p>the track then veers gently left to a.....</p>
9	95740 00946	<p>..... junction / crossroads; track goes straight ahead to a gate about 80m on; forest road to the left with gate and barrier goes south; forest road goes right to.....</p>

10

95682
01092

....another gate 160m ahead; the forest road continues on NNW uphill; inside the gate on the left a narrow path goes uphill through the forest along by a fence



11

pic27 shows the narrow single file path, indistinct at first, going up the slope of Church Mtn, forest on either side



12

95500
01156

more mature path comes in from the left (it may start from the straight ahead track through the junction (see no.9) below)



pic28/30, a composite of two photos, looking back down shows the indistinct path on the left coming up by the fence, the more mature path joining it, the route earlier along by the forest edge, the junction (no.9) at the bottom left corner of the dark area of forest, Corriebracks in the background

13

same

the path is now more pronounced, and a watercourse



pic32v looking ahead, tape = 0.5m, shows the first of the deep gullies (30 cms deep) on this path, just beyond the tape

14		<p>pic33v looking back down shows deep gully going down to 80 cms; tape = 1m</p> 
15	95272 01266	<p>still dramatic water erosion, gullied and the soil being washed down in wet weather; path on bare stone; at this point the path is widening to the left on the heather as walkers try to avoid the deep holes</p>

16

40m
up

pic34v shows a parallel single file path through the heather above
and to the left of the eroded path



17	10m up	<p>pic35v shows a closeup of one of these holes not clearly visible in the previous photo; tape = 0.5m</p> 
18	95172 01311	<p>water channel / gully 80 cms deep running down here; above this point the damage lessens, the gullies not as deep or as numerous</p>
19	94970 01377	<p>a fence running N / S crosses the path; the path continues up and over the north brow of Church Mtn;</p> <p>I turned left (S) here following the boundary of the young forestry on a 3m wide path on soft peat</p>
20	94965 01200	<p>the path becomes stony as it reaches the top of the rise (further on it begins to descend); at this point there are two or more paths turning right off it and converging close to the summit, a short distance away; they are single file through the heather, as yet relatively "new"</p>
21	949 012	<p>Summit of Church Mtn.</p>

22

200m
down

going S from the summit, pic38v shows the lightly eroded path on the south slope; the heather cover still partially intact; tape = 1m; the track which I left earlier below on the left bordering the young forest; below that again the western spur of Lobawn in mid distance; Keadeen in the background



this path can be seen to split further down as walkers make their way over to join the forest track

23	94918 00853	<p>pic39 looking back up shows the path to the summit; path width = 1.5m; forest can be seen top right</p> 
24	94944 00721	<p>as I neared the forest track I discovered a third path coming down the slope; so, to summarise, there are three paths running roughly parallel to each other south from Church Mtn: (1) the forest track, (2) a path 5m - 30m W of the forest track, and (3) the path being surveyed / mapped, about 40m W again</p>  <p>pic40a looking back up, shows this extra path (2) winding its way uphill; the forest track is on the right; the surveyed path can barely be seen off to the left, nearer the summit</p>

25	same	 <p data-bbox="431 779 1284 877">pic41 looking downslope, shows this extra path getting more eroded as it runs parallel to, and about 5m from, the forest track; tape = 1m; the western spur of Lobawn in the background</p>
26	same	<p data-bbox="431 951 1279 1050">across from where pic41 was taken, the forest track has a 60cm deep gully running down it for a short distance, caused by water erosion</p>
27	94924 00167	<p data-bbox="431 1125 1279 1224">SE corner of the forest; Imaal Walkers 2001 wooden seat donated by Coillte at the corner; a very faint path runs straight ahead S for a few metres but peters out</p>
28		<p data-bbox="431 1299 1279 1398">the track follows the forest boundary and runs SE (mag. bearing 140°) by the edge of the forest, steepening as it approaches another forest track below running N-S</p>

29	95056 00066	<p>water damage, gullies crossing the track</p>  <p>pic42v looking down the slope, shows the path, the surface a mix of grass / stone; path width goes out to 3m in places, narrowing further down; tape = 1m (water damage not shown)</p>
30	95266 99906	<p>track reaches forestry track running N – S at a gate with a stile at the side and a "Unauthorised Entry Prohibited" sign</p>
31		<p>END</p>