

## Ballybeg Ringfort



**CL041-069.** The stone-walled sub-circular enclosure is situated at the top of a steep cliff that drops away to the east. A north to south stone wall lies to the west of the enclosure. Several large glacial boulders lie to the north-west of the enclosure.

The monument is in a poor condition but visible within the undergrowth. Several beech and rowan saplings are growing in the interior and the stones are covered in ivy and brambles. The ditch at the west is clearly visible. The area to the west of the wall west of the enclosure is less overgrown with little under-storey beneath the canopy of mature beech trees.

The dense vegetation precluded detailed measurements, but it would appear that the monument lies approximately 60-80m south of the modern houses, rather further south than the location indicated by the historic maps and therefore south of its position as noted on the Record of Monuments and Places.

**Source:** TVAS Ireland Ltd – Ballybeg Woods – An Archaeological Report by Kate Taylor, June 2015

As the report says, the place is very overgrown. With guidance, the place could be cleared of growth.

## Ballybeg stone house



Close to the picnic area, there are the remains of an old stone house. I took this photo about 20 years ago. The cowl is now hidden in brambles and scrub. It is worth recording it as it must date back to Famine times at least.

## **Erratic Boulders**



Along the walking trails, there are several very large erratic boulders. These, together with the areas of limestone pavement that are visible in parts of the Woods, bring the story of the Woods back to the Ice Age. They are of great interest to children. Growing up in Ballybeg, we were told tales of battles between giants using those boulders.



