



# Heritage Audit of the Northern River Nore



An action of the draft Kilkenny Heritage Plan  
2007-2011



**Volume 4**  
Cultural Heritage



## **Authors**

Emma Devine, Richard Jennings, Jimmy Lenehan,  
Mieke Muyllaert, C  il  n    Drisceoil

*October 30<sup>th</sup> 2009*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
CULTURAL HERITAGE	1
METHODOLOGY	1
FISHING	2
SWIMMING	4
HURLING	5
WEATHER /FLOODS	5
INDUSTRY	6
NOTES OF INTEREST ON BUILT HERTIAGE WITHIN STUDY AREA	9
MISCELLANEOUS	13
TOWNLAND NAMES	13
RIVER NAMES	17

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Public consultation meetings in progress at Threecastles Hall and Canon Malone Hall, Ballyragget	2
Figure 2:	Postcard found in Greg's fishing shop, High Street (courtesy Mr. John Dalton)	3
Figure 3:	Some poachers paraphernalia, salmon snares and a gaff hook hidden in a cigar box	3
Figure 4:	Hurling graffiti at Threecastles	5
Figure 5:	The weavers and spinners of Greenvale woollen mills (courtesy: Ann Tierney)	6
Figure 6:	Entrance to the Canal Walk c.1880	7
Figure 7:	The 'wishing chair' on the roof of Ballyragget Castle	9
Figure 8:	The 'third castle' at Threecastles built in to a later farm building in Hennessy's farmyard	12

# **Introduction**

This volume contains the results of the cultural heritage study of the northern River Nore. It firstly provides an overview of the methodology undertaken. Transcriptions of oral history relating to the study area, grouped by theme, follow. A brief study of the townland names in the study area is then outlined and the final section provides a table and mapping of the river-names that were collected during the course of the study.

## **Cultural Heritage**

Cultural heritage encompasses the traditions, practices, knowledge and skills that are also expressions of a community's culture. Such expressions include, among many others, festivals, traditional craftsmanship, storytelling and traditional music.

Cultural Heritage is a very broad term and it has many definitions and interpretations. For the purposes of this project we have taken it to mean those aspects of heritage that fall outside the broad areas of built and natural heritage. We have included aspects of our intangible heritage such as traditions, practices, knowledge and skills, and also oral history and placenames.

## **Methodology**

The cultural heritage element of the project has unearthed a wide and varied range of folklore, river names, photographs and sayings. Public consultation meetings were undertaken by the project team and held at community halls at Threecastles and Ballyragget. A short presentation of the key findings from both the Built and Natural field survey was given both meetings. The people who attended the meetings gave an abundance of valuable information which added considerably to our understanding of the study area. In addition, any information gathered from landowners and others during the field survey was also recorded.



***Figure 1: Public consultation meetings in progress at Threecastles Hall and Canon Malone Hall, Ballyragget***

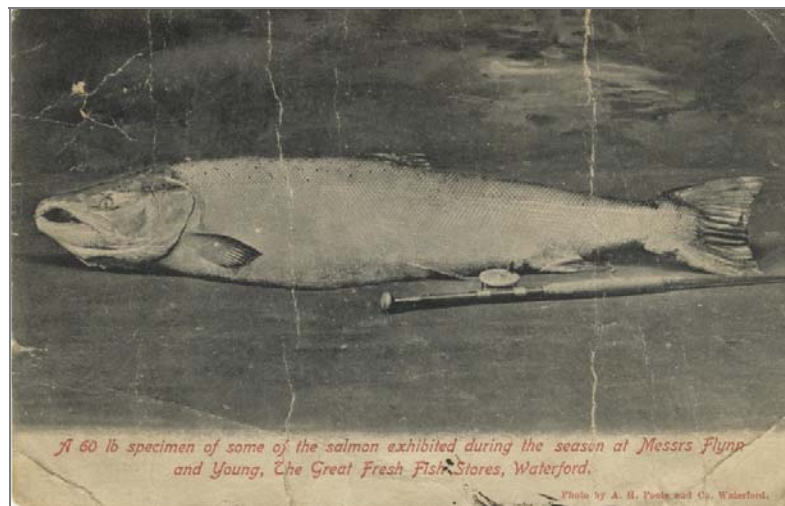
Other sources consulted included the Schools Folklore Project and the Life and Lore - Kilkenny Catalogue in the Local Studies section of Kilkenny City Library. The material contained in the Schools folklore had been collected by primary school pupils and their teachers under the auspices of the Folklore Commission in the 1930's. The Life and Lore collection was collated by Maurice O'Keefe in 2008. All the information presented below has a direct riverine connection or relates directly to sites within the specified study area. The material has been sorted by theme as recommended by the Irish Folklore Commission. The themes are as follows: Fishing, Swimming, Hurling, Weather/Floods, Industry, Notes of interest on Built heritage within study area and Miscellaneous. Under each theme the relevant snippets are recorded in their 'raw' state, ie. with as little editing as practicable.

## Fishing

There was a fishing shop called Greg's on High Street in Kilkenny City, it was located beside the Tholsel where Byrne's toy shop is now situated (John Dalton, Ballyragget public consultation).

Boats were occasionally used to fish along 'the strip' but they were not cot boats, something smaller. Canoes were also used on the rivers from 'the Moate' (Moatpark) downstream. The Lawlor's and Buggy's had license to fish (Pat Rafferty, Ballyragget public consultation).

Tommy had noticed that the fishing near his house at Lismaine had deteriorated since he was younger (Tommy White and Monica White, Lismaine House, Threecastles public consultation).



**Figure 2: Postcard found in Greg's fishing shop, High Street (courtesy Mr. John Dalton)**



**Figure 3: Some poachers paraphernalia, salmon snares and a gaff hook hidden in a cigar box**



# Swimming

'Some years ago there was a **famous swimmer** in this county by the name of Jack Byrne. One day he dived from Green's bridge in his clothes and swam to the Bishops Meadows about 400 yards up the river Nore. He preformed this swimming feat for a quart of beer.' (No name given, Freshford School, Schools folklore project).

'One of the best-known swimmers in Kilkenny is **Ray Cleere**. He is a type of swimmer that everybody who is fond of the water would like to be. I have seen him on many occasions swimming down the river Nore, putting every ounce of strength into that powerful 'overarm' stroke of his and moving as fast as a man could walk. Every time he takes a dip passers-by take a deep interest in his swimming and stop to look at his beautiful strokes.' (Freddie Travers Scoil Cainneach Naofa (B) Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

## 'Great swimmer 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1937

**Michael Clear** is a great swimmer, he lives on the Ormond Road. He takes over contracts of houses and he has many employees. Michael Clear comes up to Bishops-Meadows every summers day to swim. He is a fine hardy fellow, has big muscles and a big chest. He swims from the springing board to Green's bridge and back to the springing board again.' (Thomas Bambrick, Scoil Cainneach Naofa (B) Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

Tommy and his daughter Monica used to swim at the lower side of **Lismaine Bridge** as there was good depth of water there. (Tommy White and Monica White, Lismaine House, Threecastles public consultation).

There was a **Greenvale swimming club** in the 1940's and 50's which must have been connected to Lady Desart's woollen mills as they shared the name (Pat Rafferty, Ballyragget public consultation).

The **annual Nore swim** started at Greens Bridge, the swimmers used to get changed in to their swimming gear under Troysgate on Green Street and then run down to the river cursing the pebbles that stuck in to their bare feet (Mrs O'Rourke, Green Street, Kilkenny City).

## Hurling



**Figure 4: Hurling graffiti at Threecastles**

Some **graffiti of hurlers** was discovered during field survey on the wall of the farm building in Hennessy's farmyard at Threecastles. The graffiti dates to October 1929 and was probably the work of farm labourers helping to harvest the crops in that year. The artist most likely responsible is thought to have been Mr. Lanigan from the Tulla Road in Leugh townland (John Hennessy, Threecastles field survey).

## Weather/Floods

**Flooding** was a common occurrence for the residents of Green Street. They were flooded almost every year and had to live upstairs until the waters receded. They had a place for everything upstairs; the cutlery crockery etc. as it happened so often, once they saw the river at a certain height they would know to move everything up.

The **flood of 1947** was particularly bad and came up to the first floor windows of the houses of Green Street. Mrs O'Rourke, *nee* Purcell who lives on Green Street remembers events:

*'my mother told me to put my hand out from the first floor window of the house to touch the water so I'd always remember it, it was never that high in my memory before or since. We were stuck upstairs as was the rest of the street, Lenehan's came by with a boat and gave bread to us with a pitchfork. We were flooded every year but never as badly as in 1947. We had a place for everything upstairs; the cutlery crockery etc. as it happened so often, once we saw the river at a certain height we would know we'd be flooded and so everything was moved upstairs until the water receded. I miss the annual*



*floods now since the flood relief works were completed, there was great camaraderie here on the street’.*

The street and houses have not flooded since the flood relief works on the river however Mrs. O’Rourke says she misses the floods and the camaraderie that the floods brought to the street (Mrs O’Rourke, Green Street, Kilkenny City).

The flood of 1947 did not affect Lismaine house too badly as most of the fields drained well however the fields on the west bank of river were liable to flood. There was a big snow there in 1946 that didn’t melt until March 1947 (Tommy and Monica White, Threecastles public consultation).

## Industry



**Figure 5: The weavers and spinners of Greenvale woollen mills (courtesy: Ann Tierney)**

‘There were nearly twice as many houses (in Ballyragget) about 40 years ago.....people left the district and went to America when a flour mill was burned.’ (Nellie Ivory, Ballyragget Convent School, School folklore project).

‘There was an old **Flax Mill** beside the river Nore. This old mill was working in the year 1867. The flax was got at a place called the Seven Cross Roads between Ballyragget and Castlecomer and was manufactured in this old mill. The ruins of the mill is still there, but the water is cutting it away. A stream that was working the mill runs out of the river above the mill and runs in to it again.’ (Mr. John Murphy, Ballyragget BNS, School folklore project).

The Holohan family owned the land that **Ballyconra mill** was built on, apparently the mill was built on a castle with stone from Anker’s Island. It was a flour mill and burnt down in 1884 in March of that year on

the monthly fair day held on the first Tuesday of each month. The mill was run by the Mosses, it had an undershot waterwheel and a turbine.

**Anker's Island mills** were probably flour mills also and were known as Ass mills. The name may be a corruption of Ash from Lord Ashbrook who owned them or ass from the ass and carts who delivered the grain and took away the flour from the mill.

**Parksgrove /Ballyragget mill** was a flour mill also (Michael Holohan, Ballyragget public consultation).

Remembers boats being used to take timber from Hennessy's at Threecastles and there was silver mining at Grange (Pat Rafferty, Ballyragget public consultation).

'There were many industries in Kilkenny in olden days. Among them were – Woollen industry: – Ormonde Mills – Castle Mills – Bibby Mills – Archbold's Mills..... There were two breweries namely Smithwicks and O'Sullivans. Smithwicks still remaining. The bottling store was also a very important industry. At one time it employed a large number of men.....About half a mile from the city is the Black Marble Quarry.' (No name given, Kilkenny Convent School, Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

#### **'The Lacken Mills**

On the left bank of the river Nore the Lacken Mills are situated. They are approached from John's Bridge by way of Maudlin Street. The mills cover three acres of ground including a large plantation. They make a very picturesque sight from the Canal Walk on the opposite side of the river.

The buildings are four stories in height and can easily be seen from a distance. The mills were destroyed by a fire twenty-three years before Mr. W. Meredith took it over in the year 1878. He then erected the present mills on the same site.

At present the building is closed down and all the machinery which was once there is now removed. The place is now desolate and uninviting. There is no glass in the windows and holes in the roof. Inside the gate a little house is situated and a man named Mr. Hennessy lives there' (Kitty O'Neill, St. Patrick's Convent, Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).



*Figure 6: Entrance to the Canal Walk c.1880*

### **'The Canal Walk**

.....The entrance gate faces Rose Inn Street.....Nearly every family in Kilkenny is there taking photos and having picnics or rowing in ferry boats on the waters of the Nore.' (Ella Howard, St. Patrick's Convent, Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

### **'Ormonde Woollen Mills**

Down the ends of the canal stands the Kilkenny Woollen Mills on the banks of the Nore. These mills are very ancient. The history of them began with Kenny Scott + Co.

One time there were five hundred people working in the mills. The mills are driven by a never failing water power. The mills are three storeys in height. They are equipped with the best of machinery.

Detached from the mills are large drying and dyeing houses. Blankets tweeds flannels and serges are made in these ancient mills.' (Maureen Hackett, St. Patrick's Convent, Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

### **'Marble Mills**

.....These mills were established by William Colles. They are situated on the left bank of the river Nore..... For monuments and other purposes the grey limestone of Kilkenny is extensively used.' (Maureen Branigan, St. Patrick's Convent, Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

### **'Locally manufactured clothes**

As there is a 'Woollen Mills' in Kilkenny the tailors do not weave their cloth they buy it from the mill. If they buy a large quantity they get some discount.'(Ella Howard, St. Patrick's Convent, Kilkenny, Schools folklore project).

## Notes of interest on built heritage within study area

'A part of the river is called 'the Ford'. People used to cross to the town [of Ballyragget] there before the bridge was made.' (Nellie Ivory, Ballyragget Convent School, Schools folklore project).

### 'Ballyragget castle



*Figure 7: The 'wishing chair' on the roof of Ballyragget Castle*

There is a ruined castle in the district. It was built by Margaret Fitzgerald in the end of the fifteenth century. There is a big stone chair in it and it is said if anyone wished while sitting in it they would get their wish. It has a dungeon which stretches from it to the river.' (Maisie Baird, Ballyragget Convent School, Schools folklore project).

'.....The castle itself is fairly well preserved and seems to be withstanding the ravages of time well. As a matter of fact it provides no mean living accommodation for a workman, his wife and family. The upper storeys are not so safe but the first and second storeys are very stable and the present resident considers it a very safe abode.' (J. Kelly, Ballyragget BNS, Schools folklore project ).

### 'Anchor/Ankers Island

About one mile from Ballyragget near the river Nore is a small strip of land, called Anchor Island. It is so called Anchor's Island because some hundred years ago a St. Anchor lived there. He dwelt in a small one roomed house built by himself and the ruins of which still remain.

During the summer months these ruins are visited by the local people but if the weather is at all wet they cannot be approached as the river runs close by and small streams flow from some of the fields

around the island into the river. Tradition states that Saint did not seek any food but subsisted on food brought to him every day by a mysterious bird.....supposed to have been sent to from him from heaven.’(Patricia Phelan, Ballyragget Convent School, Schools folklore project).

‘In the parish of Lisdowney, Co. Kilkenny there is a field which is called ‘Anchor Island’ and this field lies along the bank of the River Nore. It is said that in olden times a saint lived on this island and as he had no means of livelihood God sent a bird with food to him every day. One very windy night he was walking about the island and being very cold he began grumbling about the hard life he had to live and as punishment from God the bird brought him no food the next day. When the saint saw this he got sorry and he prayed to God to give him light to know what penance he should do and God told him he should stand in the river with the stick which he had until it would bud again and he did what he was told. One day a robber came the way and when he saw the man standing in the water he asked him what he was doing there. When he told him, the robber said that if the saint had been punished so much for so small an offence how much should he be punished for all his robbery and then he went in to the river and stood beside the saint. It is said that the sorrow of the robber was so great that his stick budded first and in later years the saint died and was buried on this island. The island gets its name from the stick which the saint had in the water for it was this stick kept him there as an anchor keeps a ship and so it is called ‘Anchor Island’.’ (Josie Carroll, Lisdowney School, Ballyragget, Schools folklore project).

The folklore about the name of Anker’s Island comes from an anchorite sinner who went to the island to do his penance. He built a cell and stuck a stick in the ground and prayed to god, once the stick bloomed his penance was to be finished.

Mr. Holohan was taught fishing by an older man when he was a boy, they used to fish at Anker’s Island. The older man used to lean over the bank on the island and trail his hands in the river and produce handfuls of human bone from the edge of the bank where the river had eroded it. (Michael Holohan, Ballyragget public consultation).

Stone from Anker’s Island church was used to build Ballyragget corn mill, Bishops hand is built in to annex of John Phelan’s hardware store. (Tom Butler, Ballyragget public consultation).

### **Moate Hill [probably Moatpark motte]**

‘This hill is about 100 feet in height with one opening at the East side. There is a little church at the back of the hill. Once when Mass was being said two men were placed on the top of this hill to watch the soldiers coming down Ballymartin Hill. Many times priests were killed there but their names are not known.’ (Mr Thomas Phelan, Ballyragget BNS, Schools folklore project).

‘According to the ancient tale, **Thornback** got its name from the monks who lived there having worn on their backs crowns of thorns.’ (John Kennedy Esq., Dunmore N.S., Schools folklore project).

‘**Rathbeagh** is about 21/2 miles from Greenkil school on the Freshford side. There is a rath in the townland and tradition states that a Milesian King named Eremon, son of Milesius, lived there years before the Christian Era. They generally believe that he is buried there, and in olden times the people

thought that fairies or ghosts of the Milesians were to be seen near the spot.’(No name given, Greenkil School, Johnstown, Schools folklore project).

### **Lismaine House**

Lismaine House was built on the site of ‘Lismaine Cottage’ shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition. The cottage burnt down in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and had been owned by Cahill’s from England. A slab of plaster with the year 1878 inscribed on it was discovered above a bookcase in the sitting room of the current house and date its construction. A limestone quarry and kiln are located on the land of the adjoining farm. (Tommy White and Monica White, Lismaine House, Threecastles public consultation).

Apparently McGrath’s used to own Lismaine house (Tom Butler, Ballyragget public consultation).

### **Inchmore Castle**

Cut stone fragments of Inchmore castle have been collected by Dan Lenehan from the ditches and rubble near his and his neighbours houses at Inchmore. The cut stone includes limestone and dundry stone of a high quality, most are mullions and transoms from the windows of the castle and date to the 15<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> century. A slop stone probably from the castle courtyard was also identified built in to a neighbour’s garden (Dan Lenehan, Inchmore, Ballyragget public consultation).

The stone from Inchmore castle had apparently been re-used in building Keiran’s college in Kilkenny City (Tom Hoyne, Threecastles public consultation).

It is said that a tunnel ran from Foulksrath castle to Inchmore castle (Tom Butler, Ballyragget public consultation).

### **‘Threecastles**

Situated in Threecastles ..... are the remains of three castles. The walls of two of the castles are still standing.

The first castle was built in 1010 four years before the Battle of Clontarf. Beside this are the walls of an old Abbey. St. Kieran’s brother was supposed to have lived in this castle.





***Figure 8: The 'third castle' at Threecastles built in to a later farm building in Hennessy's farmyard***

The Protestant clergyman's home of Threecastles is built on the ruins of the second castle. The remains of the third castle are on Hennessy's farm beside which is an old Abbey. The bell was taken down twenty years ago. The doors of the castles are very narrow. The three castles overlooked the River Nore.' (Kitty Tynan, Kilkenny Convent School, Kilkenny, School folklore project Talbotsinch).

Con Downey's father was in the Army and was stationed in the barracks locally. When houses in Talbot's Inch became available in 1937, his father moved in. Pat Brett, a villager, provided some background to the design and construction of the village. The industries associated with the village included a woollen mill and flax and tobacco growing. Con spoke about playing in the soccer team. There were also a hockey team and cricket team in the village. Tom and Pat's fond memories of growing up and living in Talbot's Inch are clearly evident in this recording (Con Downey and Pat Brett, Talbotsinch, Irish Life and Lore Kilkenny Collection, CD 36).

### **Lady Desart's Suspension Bridge**

The flood of 1947 knocked the bridge over, a photograph showing the bridge in the days immediately after its destruction was taken by Tom Boyle who was the secretary of the County Council on his way to play tennis (John Dalton, Kilkenny City, Threecastles public consultation).

## Miscellaneous

Saying: ‘Curse Ballyragget that it never gave man or beast relief’ (Anna Purcell, Ballyragget Convent School, Schools folklore project).

## Townland names

The names of the townlands within the study area were studied for any clues or hidden meanings of interest they may have preserved within them. They were translated into their Irish equivalent using [logainm.ie](http://logainm.ie). Any with an agricultural or riverine meaning was explained by Dr. Proinsias O’ Drisceoil. Out of the sixty-six townlands the river Nore crosses within the defined study area only eight were found to have any such connections. These are listed in the table below and there follows the complete list of townlands within the study area along with their Irish translation.

*Townland names with riverine/agricultural connections*

OS Townland name in English	Irish translation	Meaning
Baun	An Bán	bán – untilled
Bishopsmeadows	Móinéar an Easpaig	Móinfhéar – a meadow
Brackin	Breacain	breac-thirim: fairly dry, dry in patches
Coole	An Chúil	cúil – a corner, nook
Inchbeg	An Inse Bheag	ínse – an ing (sic), a river or sea-meadow, bank, link
Maudlinsland	Fearann an Mhaidilín	fearann – a field, land, farm
Roachpond	Lochán an Róistigh	lochán – a small lake, a pool, a ‘flash’, a puddle, a shallow rain lake
Talbotsinch	Inse an Talbóidigh	ínse – an ing (sic), a river or sea-meadow, bank, link

*Townlands in study area and their Irish translations*

<b>OS Townland name in English</b>	<b>Irish translation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Archersgrove	Garrán an Áirséaraigh	
Archerstreet Lot	Lota Shráid an Áirséaraigh	
Ardaloo	Ard Lú	
Ayresfields	Páirceanna an Iarsaigh	
Ballycarran	Baile Uí Charráin	
Ballycarran Little	Baile Uí Charráin Beag	
Ballyconra	Béal Átha Conrátha	
Ballynaslee	Baile na Slí	
Ballyragget	Béal Átha Ragad	
Baun	An Bán	bán – untilled
Bishopsmeadows	Móinéar an Easpaig	Móinfhéar – a meadow
Bleach Green	An Tuar	
Borris Big	An Bhuiríos Mhór	
Brackin	Breacain	breac-thirim: fairly dry, dry in patches
Clintstown	Baile an Chluinnigh	
Collegepark		
Coole	An Chúil	cúil – a corner, nook
Coolshal More		
Coolgrange	An Ghráinseach Fhuar   Gráinseach Chúil Phobail	
Danville	Dainbhil	
Deansground	Fearann an Deagánaigh	
Donaghmore	Domhnach Mór	

Dukesmeadows	Móinéar an Diúic	
Dunmore	An Dún Mór	
Dunmore West	An Dún Mór Thiar	
Friarsinch	Inse na mBráthar	
Gallowshill	Cnoc na Croiche	
Gardens	Gairdíní an Chaisleáin   Gairdíní na mButaí   Gairdíní San Eoin	
Grange	An Ghráinseach	
Highhays	An Garraí Uachtarach	
Inchbeg	An Inse Bheag	ínse – an ing (sic), a river or sea-meadow, bank, link
Inchmore	An Inse Mhór	
Islands	Na hOileáin	
Jamesgreen	Faiche Shan Séamas	
Jamespark	Páirc Shan Séamas	
Keatingstown	Baile Chéitinn	
Knockroe	An Cnoc Rua	
Lacken	An Leacain	
Leggetsraeth West	Ráth an Leigéadaigh Thiar	
Lismaine	Lios Mheáin	
Loughmerans	Loch Meadhráin	
Maudlinsland	Fearann an Mhaidilín	fearann – a field, land, farm
Middleknock	An Cnoc Láir	
Moatpark	Páirc an Mhóta	
Monafrica	Móin an Phriocaigh	

Naglesland	Baile an Nóглаigh	
Newpark Lower	An Pháirc Nua Íochtarach	
Newtown	An Baile Nua   Baile an Ghlugair	
Oldtown	An Seanbhaile	
Parks Grove		
Pennefeatherslot		
Purcellsgarden	Garraí an Phuirséalaigh	
Quarryland	Fearann an Choiléir	
Rathbeagh	Ráth Bheathach	
Rathduff	An Ráth Dhubh	
Roachpond	Lochán an Róistigh	lochán – a small lake, a pool, a ‘flash’, a puddle, a shallow rain lake
Russelstown		
Seixs lough		
Simonsland	Baile Shíomoin	
Sionhermitage	Síón	
Talbotsinch	Inse an Talbóidigh	ínse – an ing (sic), a river or sea-meadow, bank, link
Threecastles	Bábhún Ó nDuach	
Threecastles Demense		
Tinnalintan	Tigh na Liontán	
Troyswood	Coill an Treoigh	
Walkinlough		

## River Names

The rich heritage of river-names along the northern Nore has been recorded and mapped by the study-group during the course of this project. In total 94 names were noted and these are listed in sequence from north-south the table below. Maps showing the location of each name follow. Most of these names appear to have recent associations/origins probably being renewed from generation to generation. Only one Irish name was recorded, that of Riskeens meaning a marshy place which suggests this is the most ancient name on the northern stretch of the River Nore. Each name was given a number and the number located on the corresponding map where possible, see below. Some of the names were collected during our public consultation meetings in Threecastles and Ballyragget but most of the information was sourced by Jimmy Lenehan who contacted the local anglers directly in particular: John Dalton, Dick Keoghan, Jack Phelan and Sean Stapleton.

River-Name	Notes	Map Number
Hestons Stand	A slow moving stretch of water that extends over three or four fields.	1
Tin Weir	This is the first weir on the journey south.	1
The Church Pool	An area of slack water, 120-150m long. A favourite spot for Paddy Coogan and his primus stove, he would cook up a <i>stone</i> of food on the primus and feed whoever was fishing with him. He was from a family of coopers from Ballyragget.	2
Ankers and Ankers Island	A stretch of fast water fished above the island.	3
The Head of Pat Dooleys	Fast water at the end of Anker's Island. The Laois side is known as New York.	3
Mouth of the O'Bheg	Where a small stream called the O'bheg or O'beg (as a suggestion it may be a form of <i>amhain beag</i> ). Fast water excellent fished with a bait of worms, salmon stood here having passed a series of rapids.	3



Bernies	A wooded area on the Ballyragget side – difficult to fish.	3
The Flat	A slow moving stretch of three to four fields of excellent fishing (mainly on the Ballyragget side). Normally fished with a bait of worms or a devon.	3
Sunny Brophys	Two fields of rapids and scrub bushes.	Location unknown
Jack The Cooks	Jack Murphy a county councillor with Kilkenny County Council was fondly known as <i>The Cook</i> . This seems to be at Ballyconnra weir. At the end of the rapids only 100m is fishable due to the scrub cover.	4
Dan Delany's Hole	A stretch of slow water.	4
The Kennels	A long stretch of water on the Avonmore plant side. Called after the Hunt which used to meet at the cross-road to Lisdowney.	5
The well field	Not marked on map but the start of the Kennel is called the well field (this would be in line with the big house belong to Avonmore – now offices).	Location unknown
The Gut	This stretches from the weir of Ballyragget down to the old bridge or Archers Island. Archer's island is not now a true island but once was cut off by a mill stream servicing a mill beside the bridge. The Archers being a local family/landowners. Good fishing.	6
The Burren (Byrne?) Sally	Also know as Tom Thorntons tree. Where the Back river or Castle stream meets the Nore. This stand was made famous when Tom Thornton was arrested at gunpoint by the RIC for poaching as he lay asleep by the river. The newspaper headline read "Expensive sleep at river bank".  The Thorntons provided a number of characters over the years all known for their exploits on the river..... Rommel Thornton aka Mick Gunner	6

	Thornton or Shemshee (Rommels father).	
Paddy Fitz's Island	This island was created by a mill stream that ran from Ballyragget bridge, down approx 1-2 Km on the Freshford side of the river. Mainly trout fishing.	6
The Head of Johnny McGraths		6
Eel Weir	There was an eel weir here at the convent which Sean remembers well, but it was bulldozed out in the 1970's as part of a DIY flood alleviation scheme.	6
Tom Delanys Garden	Opposite where the mill stream enters the river at the end of Fitz's island. Good fishing with devons or worms.	7
Dick Macks Island		7
The Head of the Dairy	Fast water slowing down, a spot where fish would stand.	7
Tail of the Dairy		<b>7</b>
Suttons Hole	Bellow the rapids, dirty water difficult to fish.	8
The Garden Stream		8
The Garden Stream		8
Dairy Pond	Near junction of road and river at Grange	Location unknown
The Mound	Also called the mound "above" grange	Location unknown
Suttons Hole		Location unknown
Lennons of the Well		Location unknown
The Orchard	Belongs to Grange house	8
The Wire	Belongs to Gorman's farm , also the "head" of Gorman's pond	Location unknown
The Blackthorns		Location unknown
Gormans	A long flat section of water	Location unknown

Kennedy's	This runs into the long meadow	Location unknown
The Long Meadow		Location unknown
Lennons Hole		Location unknown
The Church Yard hole		10
The Rath Hole		10
Tail of Rathbegh		10
The Sandy Beach		10
The Swallow Hole		11
Lismaine Bridge		11
McGraths	Enter stile at cement works and upstream for 100m	11
The Run In	This is the head of Lismaine pond	11
Lismaine Pond	A long stretch of water	11
Tail of Lismaine	Same as Cody's but Cody's is on east bank. This is where Johnny Dalton caught a 30lb 5oz salmon, a specimen fish.	11
Cody's Hole	Just above the separation of the Bracken/Nore divide	11
The Hole above the Bridge		12
The Herds Bridge		12
Above the Stone Wall	100m below the bridge	12
The Run in to...		12
The Sand Hole	Cattle drinking spot and cattle fording point to Islands	12
The Short Strip	A deep hole 100m below the sand hole	12
The Long Strip	A long stretch of water 100m below the Short Strip. This runs as far as the joining of the	13

	Freshford Stream	
The Mouth of the Brook	The joining of the Nuenna/Freshford stream where the Nuenna crosses the near by lane the bridge is called the Black Bridge	13
The Stone Wall	A fast stretch of water some 100m below the <i>mouth</i>	13
The Rape Hole	Medium to fast running water - adjoining field names are little and big Capprix	Location unknown
The Tail of the Bracken	Jack recalls the only place on the nore to find <i>Gudgeon</i> is on the sandy bottom of the Bracken here	13
Windy Pond	A stretch of water some 200-300m long good fishing when water is running high or in flood	13, 14
The Cement Wall	At a junction of a small stream	Location unknown
Tail of Windy/Walls Corner	Local swimming spot	14
Bourke's Island	Some 100m below tail of windy angry swirling water	14
Campion's	120m past Bourke's and now very overgrown not fishable, narrow fast and deepish water some 50-60m long	14
The Bridge Pond	Ardaloo Bridge Jack hooked a River Nore pearl mussel here	14, 15
Pieries	Some 100m below the bridge	14, 15
The Bog	Long stretch of water (1 mile or so) made up of the following names: The Ossiery, The Metal Man, The Blackthorn, The Big Tree	14, 15
The Sod	Also called the shot	16
The Tail of the Bog	Also called The Back of the Sod	16
The Shot	Water beginning to speed up after long slow run	16
The Old Dinan		16
Shintins Weir	Possibly taken out in 1947 by farmers. Good fly fishing if water is right. Johnny Dalton believes	16

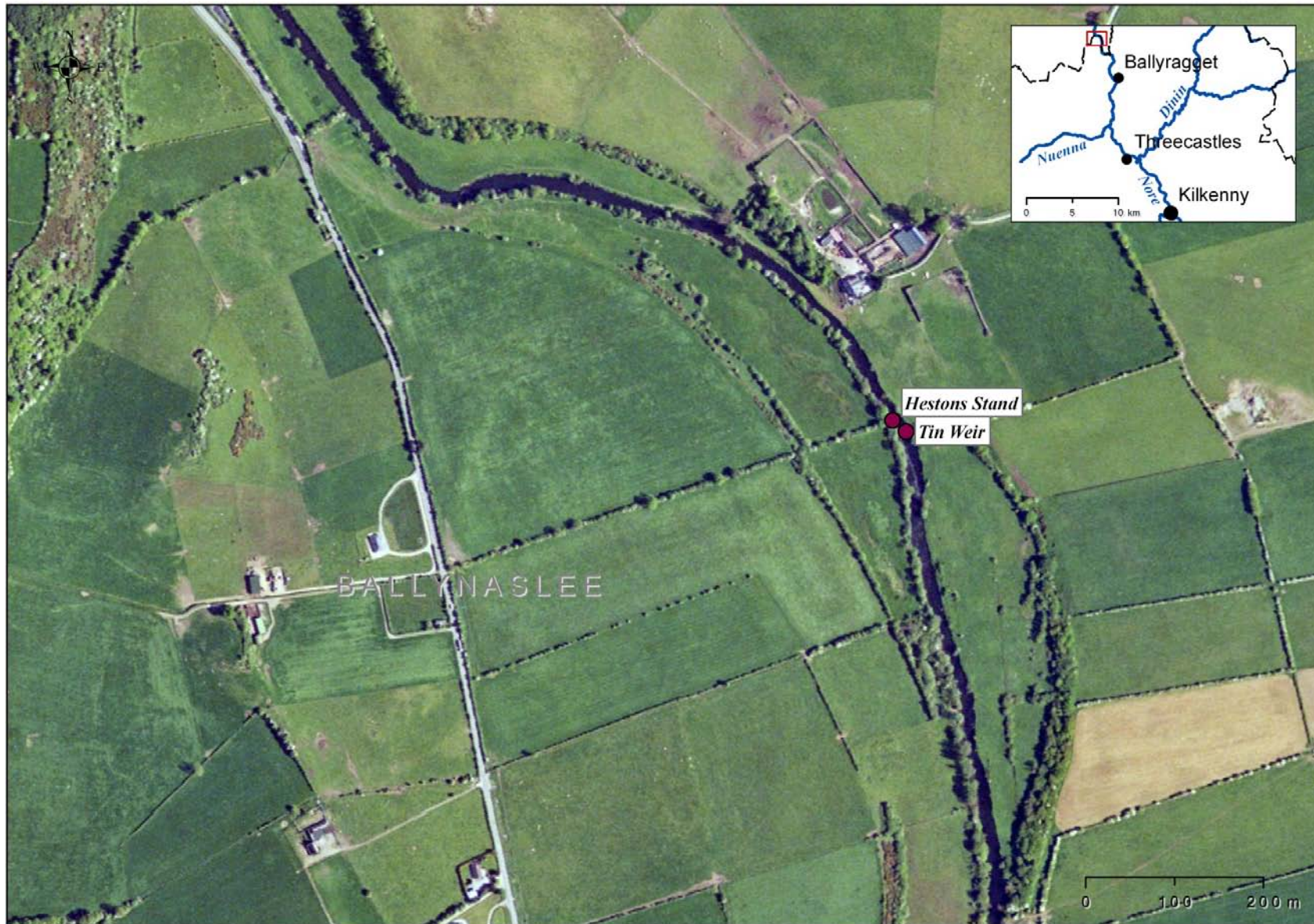
	there was a concrete wall in place to prevent riverbank erosion but this was dug out by farmers to try and not impede the flow of the Nore as it was approaching the Dinan- thereby reducing the risk of flood damage by the Dinan.	
The Rock Stream	Fast water some 60m long- good fly fishing	16
The Tail of the Stream	A large stone here referred to as the armchair rock	16
Armchair Rock		16
The Pot	This is a swirling eddy some 30m long	16
The Sheep Hole	Where sheep were once washed, really is the tail of the pot. Fishermen have a hut here.	16
The Run In	A short stretch of fast water	16
The Big Hole  The Tail of the big hole	The joinings of the Nore and Dinan	16
The Hole with the Stick	Start of the mill race. Jack says there is/was a weir here between these two stands ( the big hole and the high banks)	16
The High Banks	Fast water leading down to the apple tree	16
The Apple Tree		16
The Malt House Hole	The distillery pond	16
The Tail Race		16
Cuggy's Ditch		16, 17
Matter's Ditch		16, 17
Flemming's Ditch		17
Riskeens	Johnny says this is the only Irish name in the sequence	17
Yankees Bridge	This is where a Man called Yankee Kelly of Dean Street, was fishing on the Dunmore bank and wanted to get a drink at The Rock Bar, so as not	17, 18, 19

	to be outdone by the river, he stripped naked and forded the river, keeping his clothes dry above his head. Mr. Kelly got the name yankee as he had once lived in the USA	
The Neck of Ryans		19
The Flags		Location unknown
The Boils		Location unknown
Lynch's Hill		Location unknown
The Black Island	Called after the black sallies (willows) that grow there	Location unknown
The Horse Hole	Johnny Dalton thinks this is where British Soldiers watered horses, but given the location it may have been the Ormonde's horses.	Location unknown
Bolgers Flat		19
Bournan's Pond	Pond was really the head of Troyswood weir and once the weir was removed (c. 1947) the water speeded up and the pond disappeared. Johnny Dalton called Troyswood weir 'Kealy's Weir'. Johnny also tells a story of a local priest, Fr Joyce of St Mary's who swam here for privacy and one day happened upon two poachers who were engrossed in the process of landing a salmon here.	19
The Broken Banks	Marked as the location of water treatment intake	19
The Richmond	Ladies swimming location- men only at Greenvale	20
Caney Island		21
The Island		21
Triangle Pond		21
The Wier / Greenvale	Also called the weir or the 10th field. Location of Greenvale swimming club - Was normally men only	21



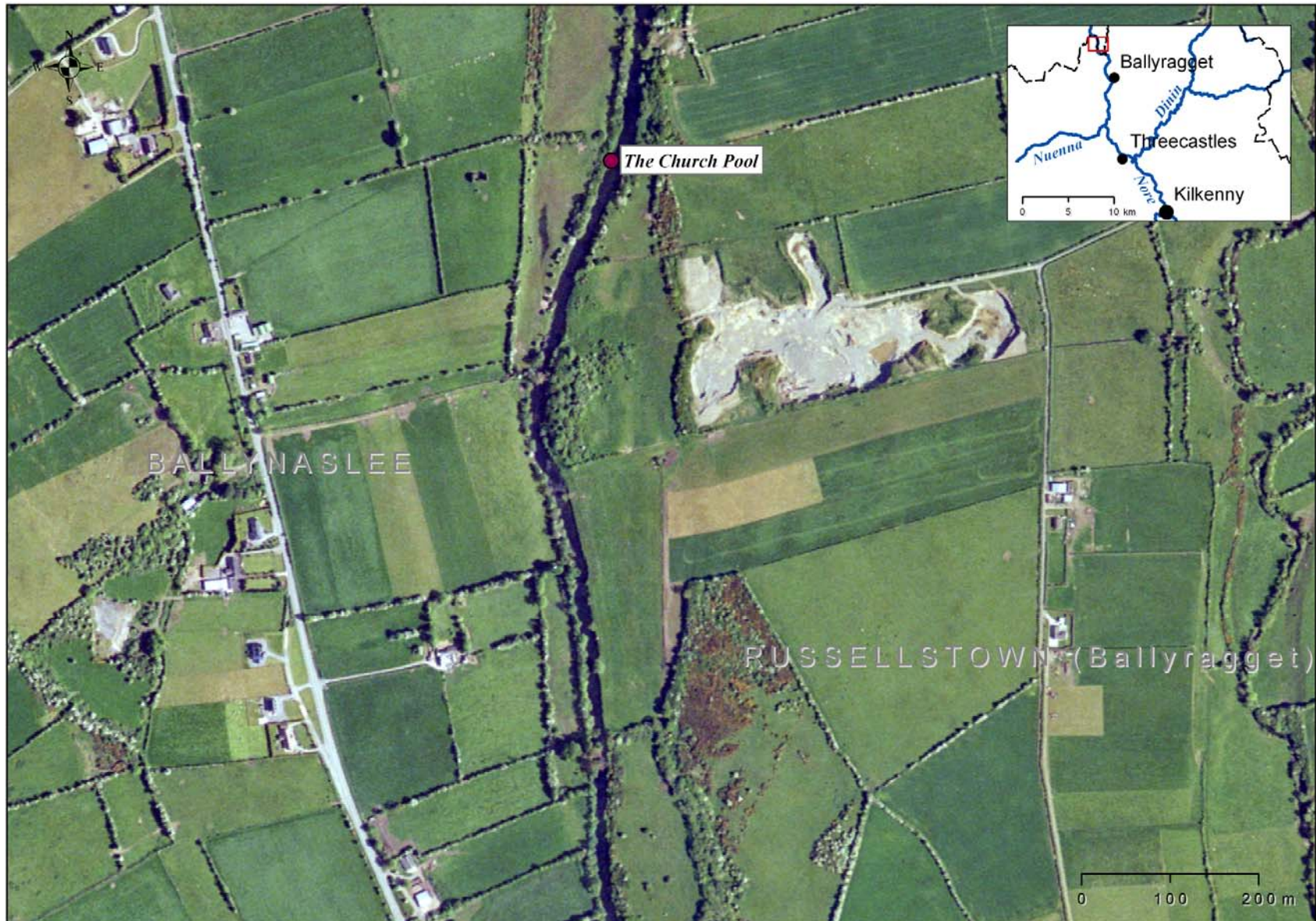
The Wollen Mills Stream		21
The Suspension Bridge		21, 22
The Cherry Hole	Just below suspension bridge	21, 22
Marx's Rocks		22
Marx's Hole		22
The Silly-bub Ditch		22
Bumberry's Pond	Just above the sunken weir or above Devils Island	Location unknown
The Sunken Weir	Also known as the 3rd field or Devils Island	Location unknown
The Second Field		22
The Big Tree		Location unknown
The Meadows	An older swimming spot and also location of the 7 springs. The meadows also the 1st field, at the start of the meadows was the much used "7-springs" proving excellent drinking water. But the local Smithwicks brewery refused to use the water after tapping into it saying the water was too hard.	23
O'Rourkes		Location unknown
The V		Location unknown
Sandy Banks	From Greensbridge to the River Breagagh	23, 24
The Town Pond	From Greensbridge to the weir at Kilkenny College	Location unknown
The Tail of the Castle	Also the start of the canal	Location unknown
The Little Pond	Known more recently as the Tank on Maudlin Street	Location unknown

# MAP 1 River Names



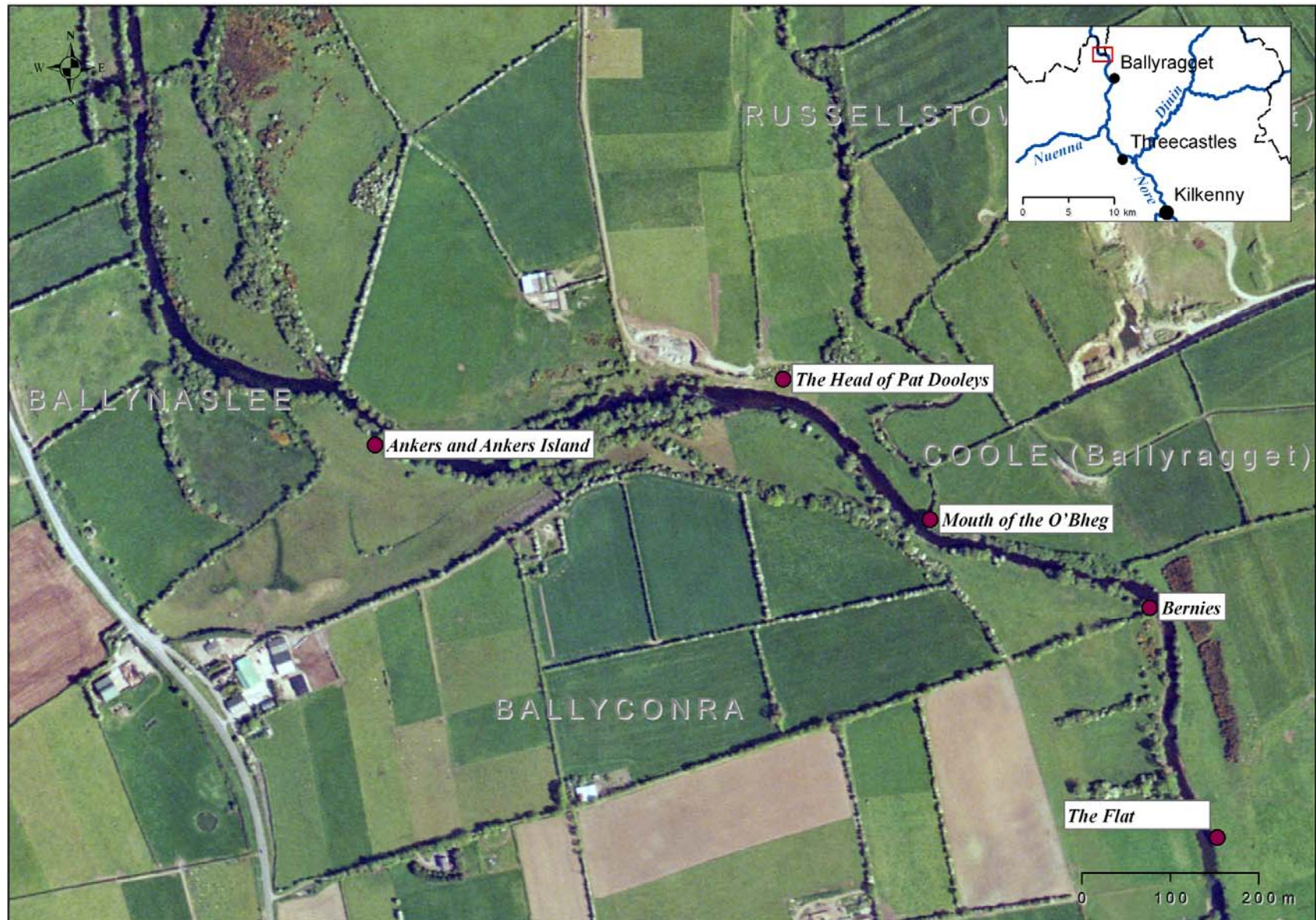


## MAP 2 River Names



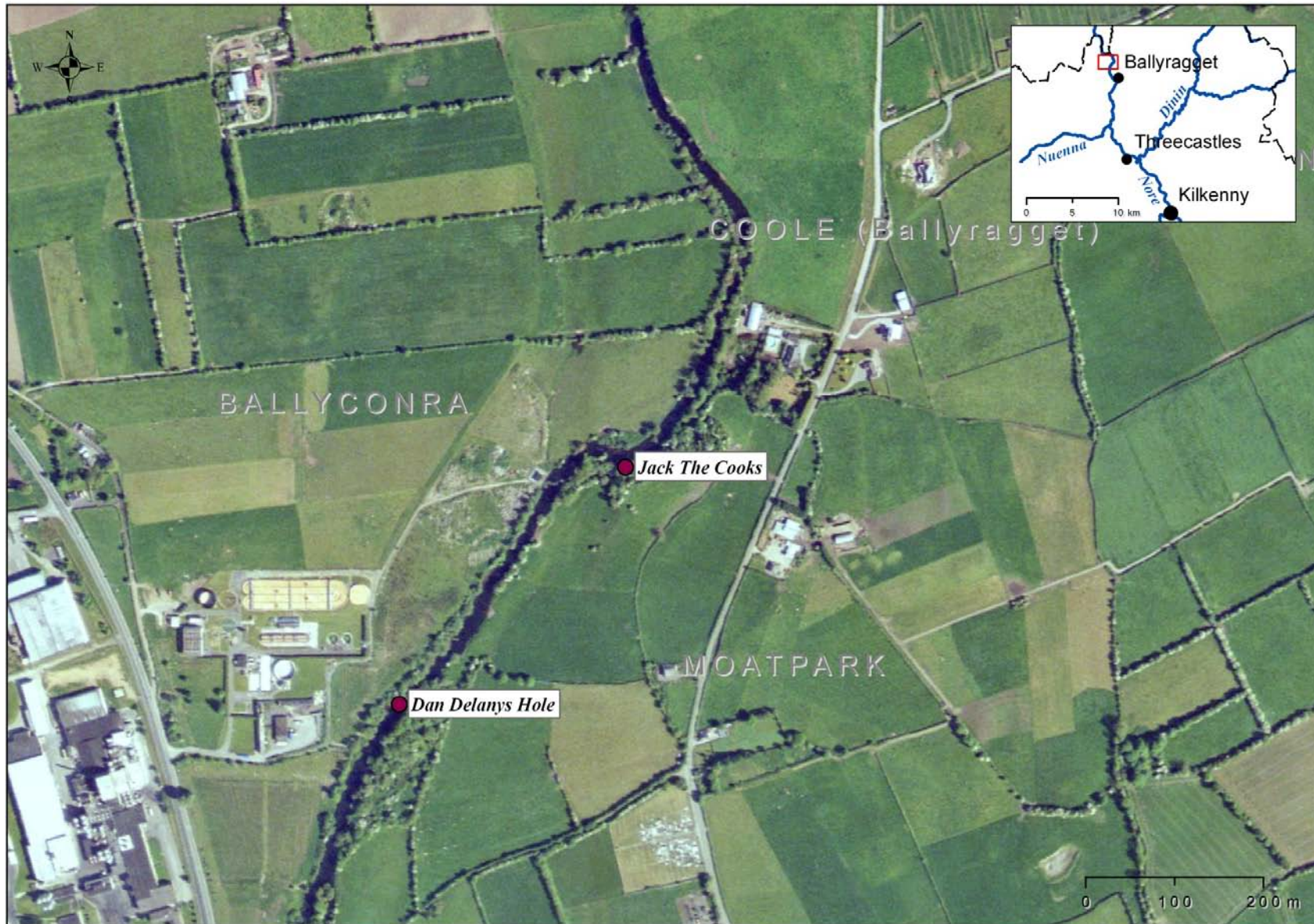


## MAP 3 River Names





## MAP 4 River Names



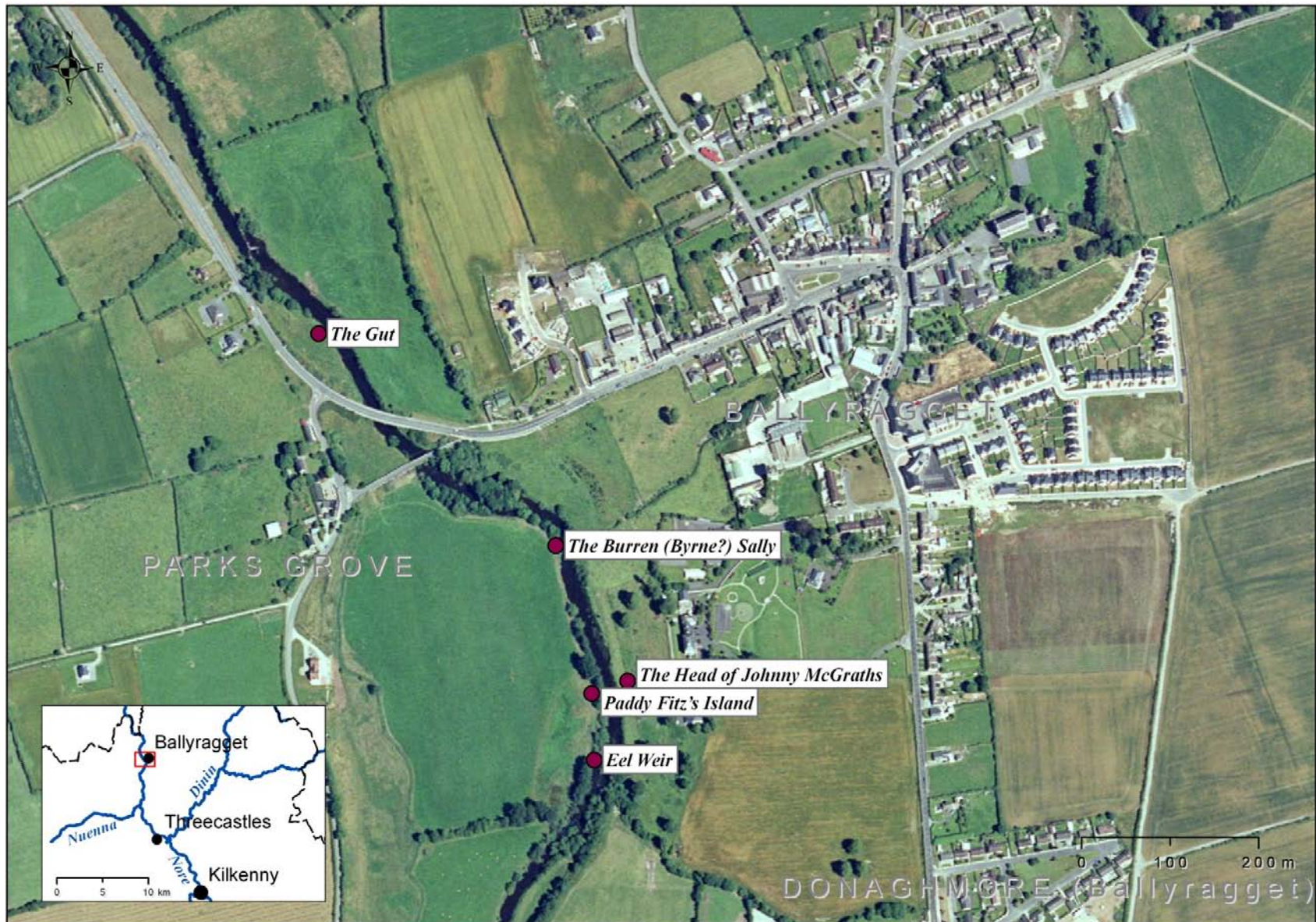


## MAP 5 River Names



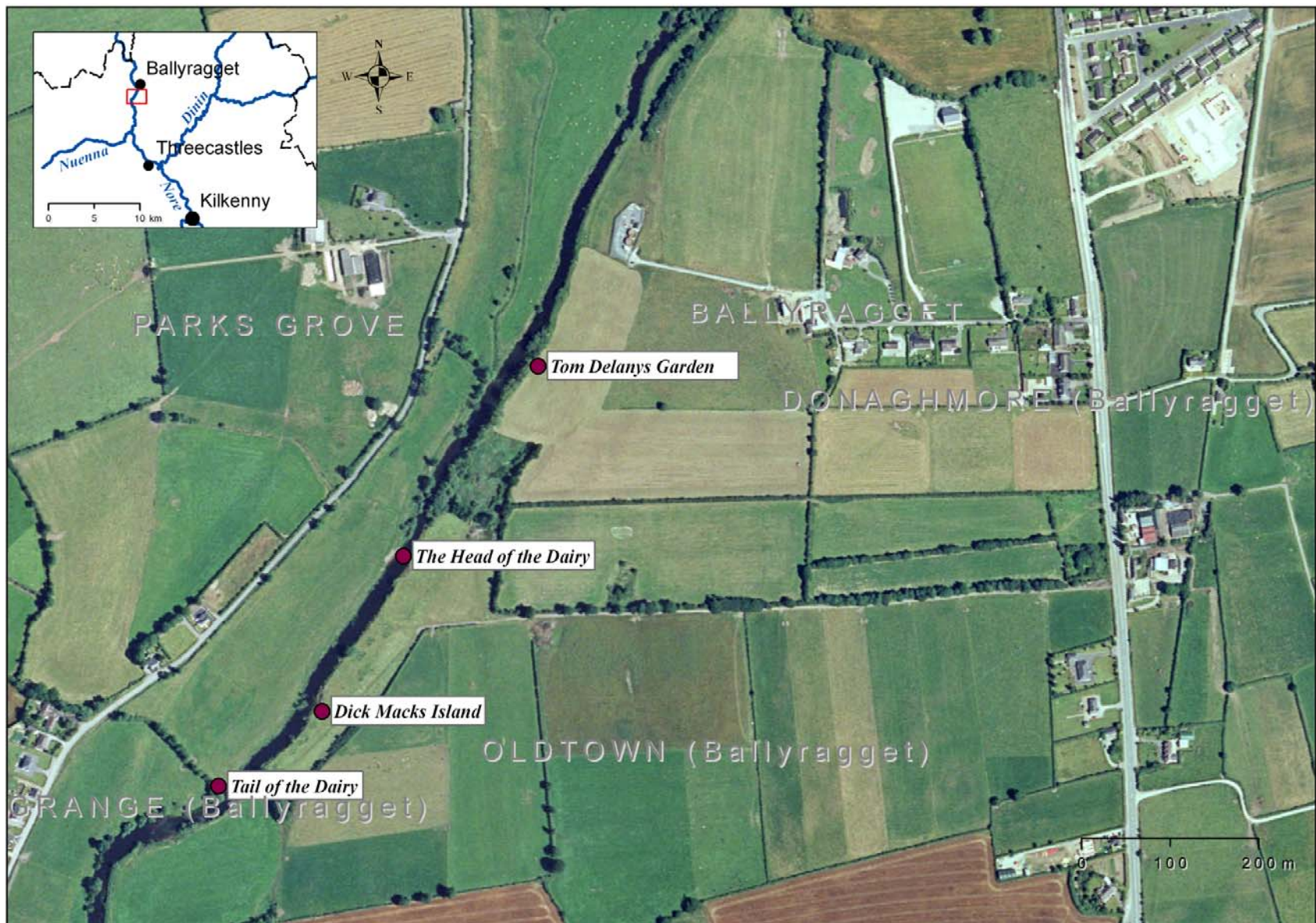


## MAP 6 River Names





## MAP 7 River Names



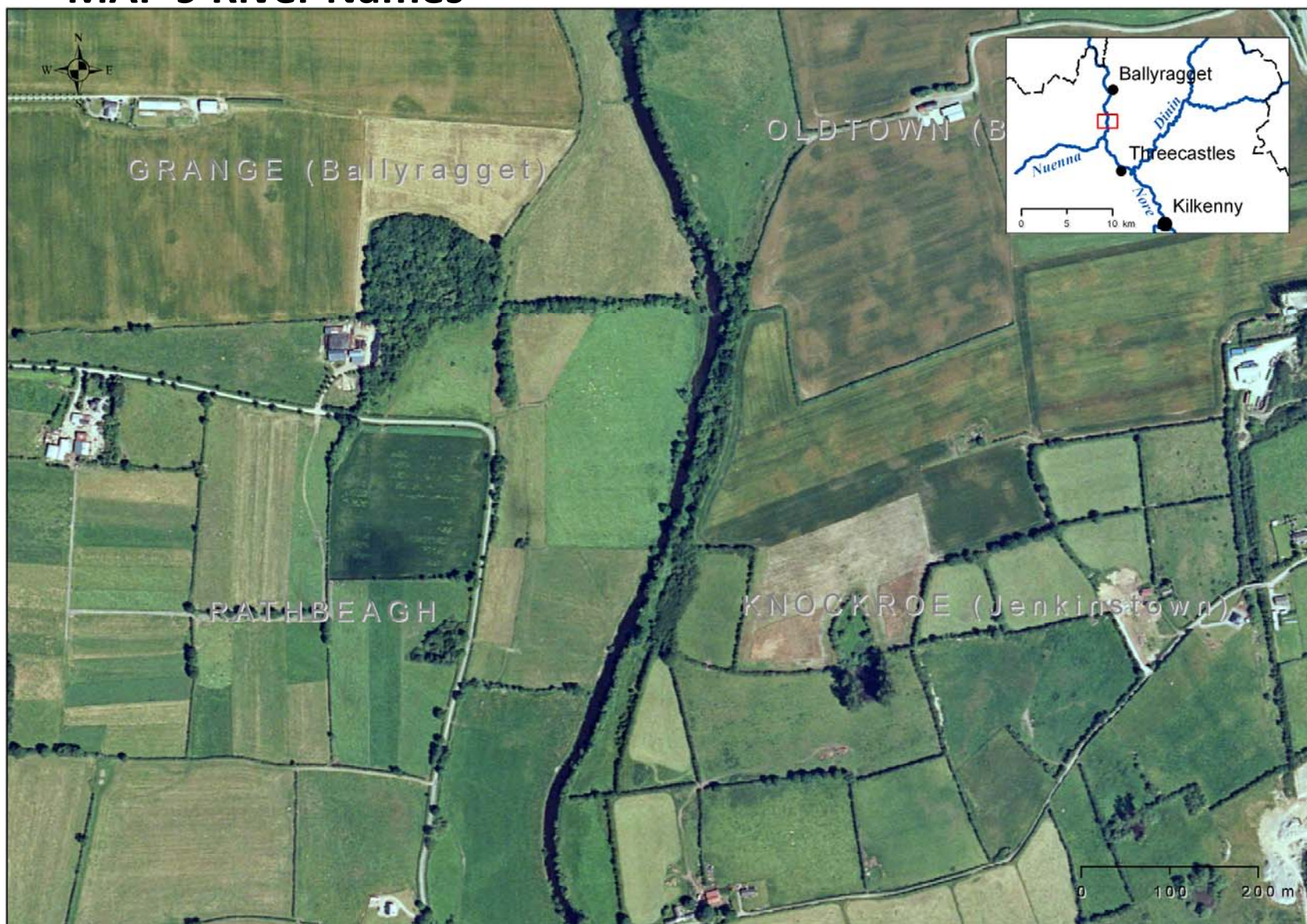


## MAP 8 River Names



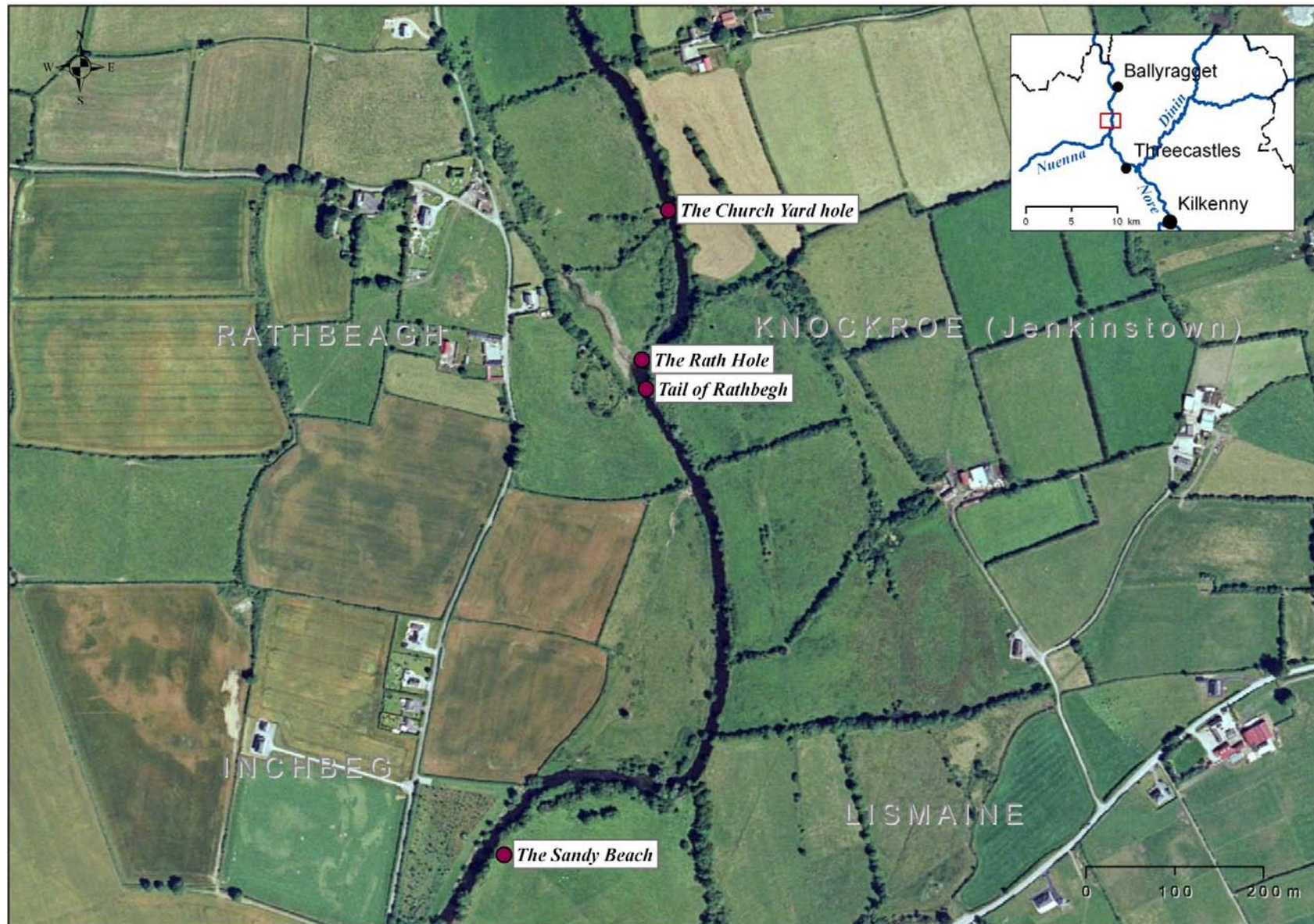


## MAP 9 River Names



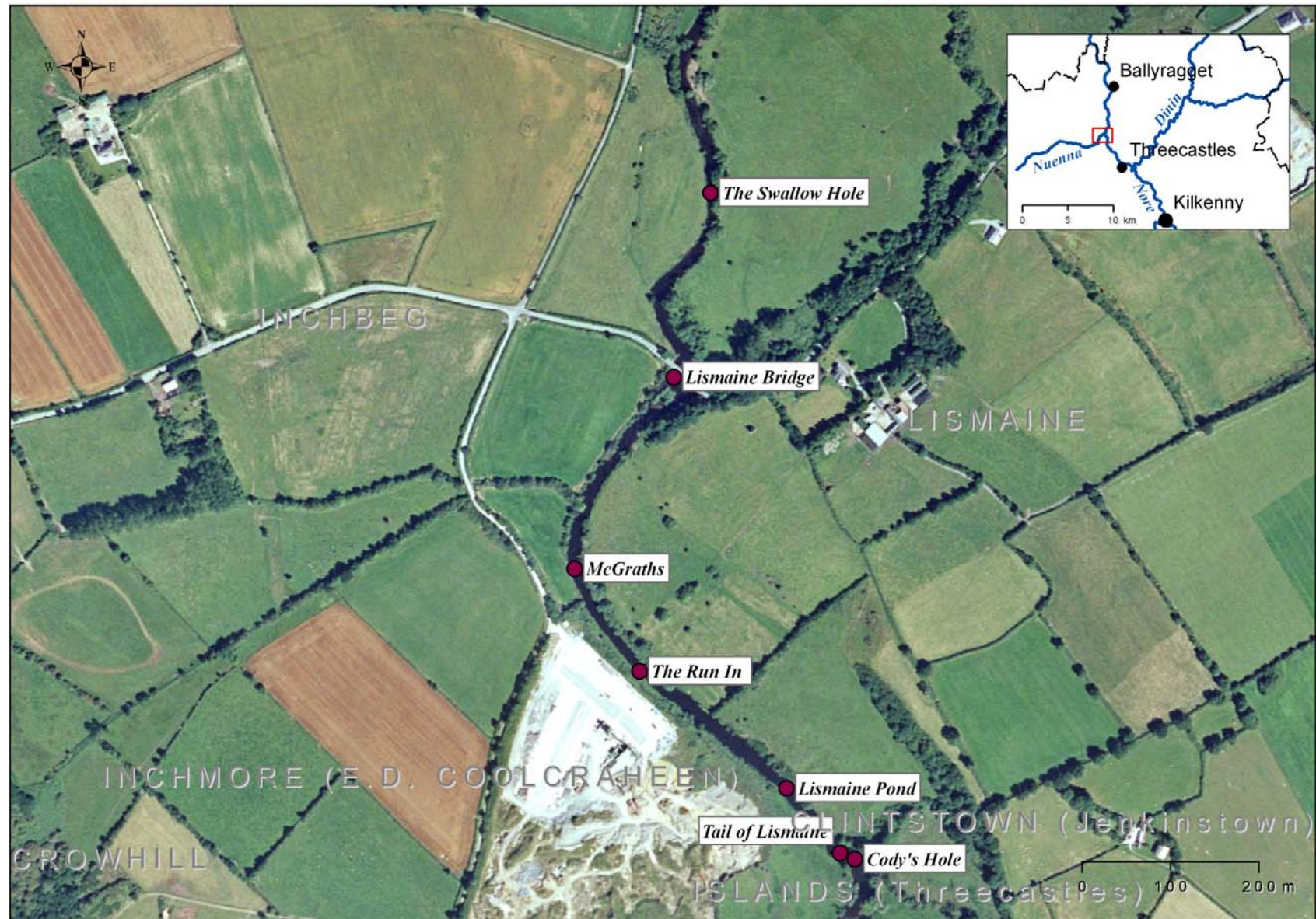


## MAP 10 River Names



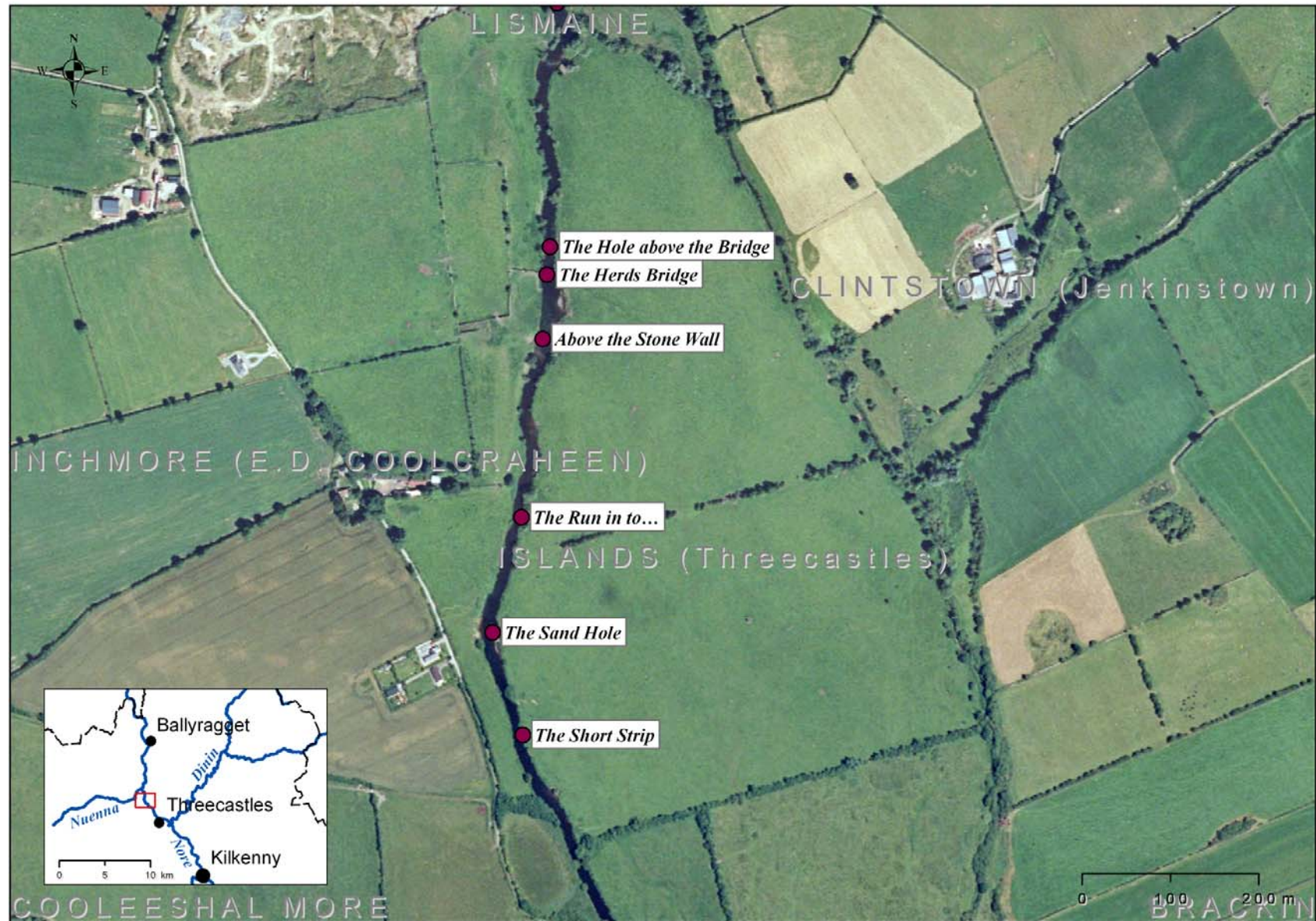


## MAP 11 River Names



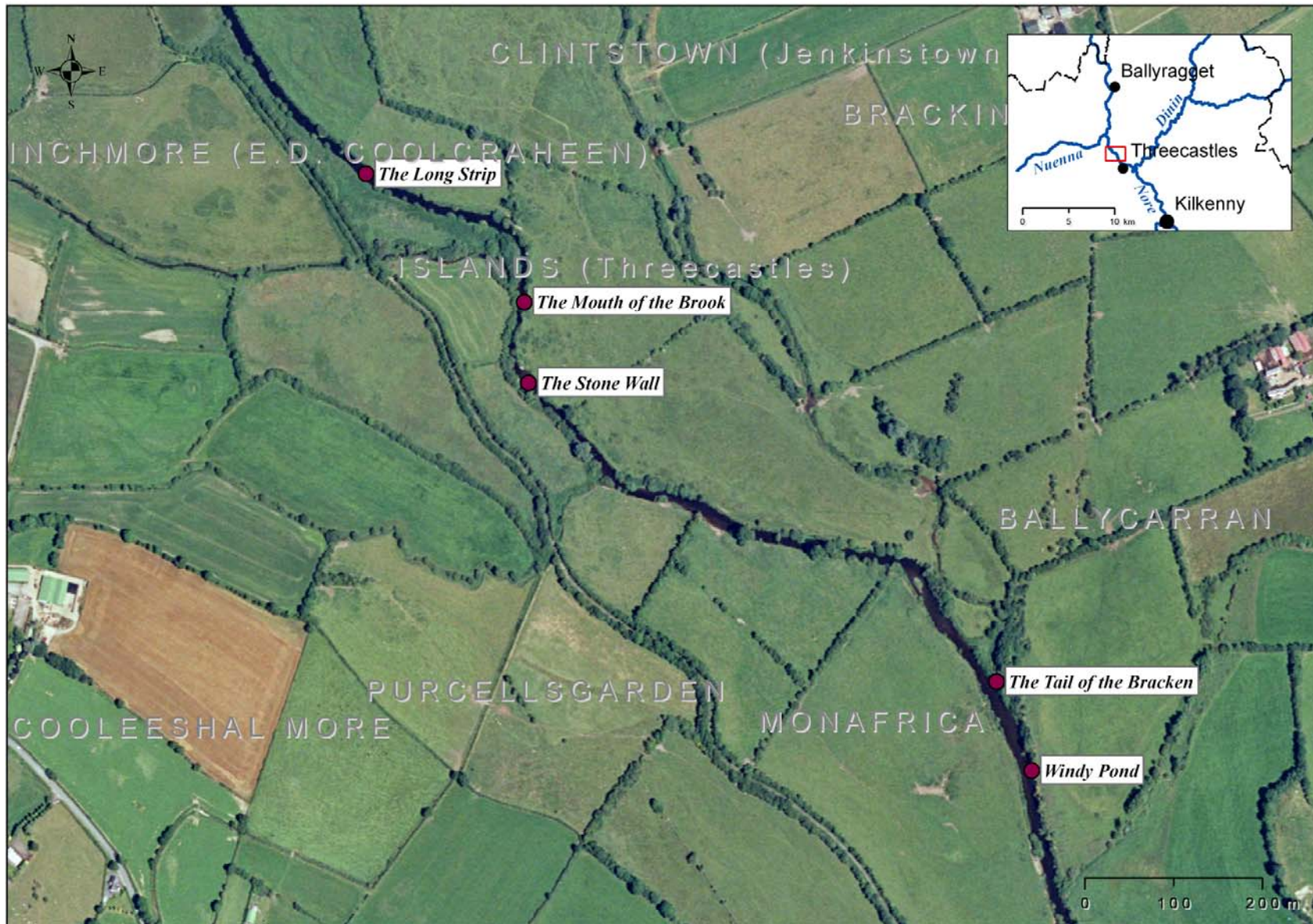


## MAP 12 River Names



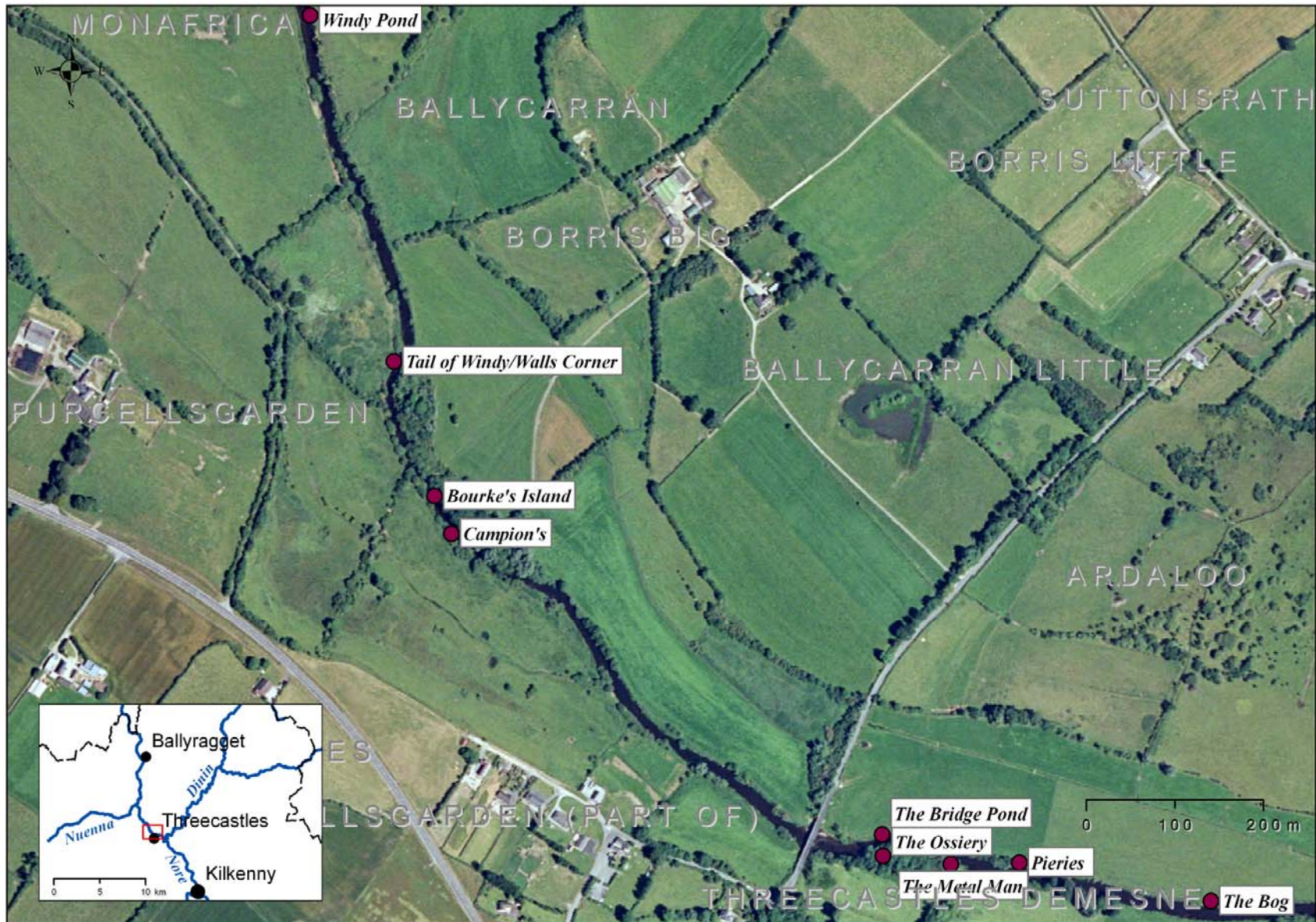


## MAP 13 River Names





# MAP 14 River Names



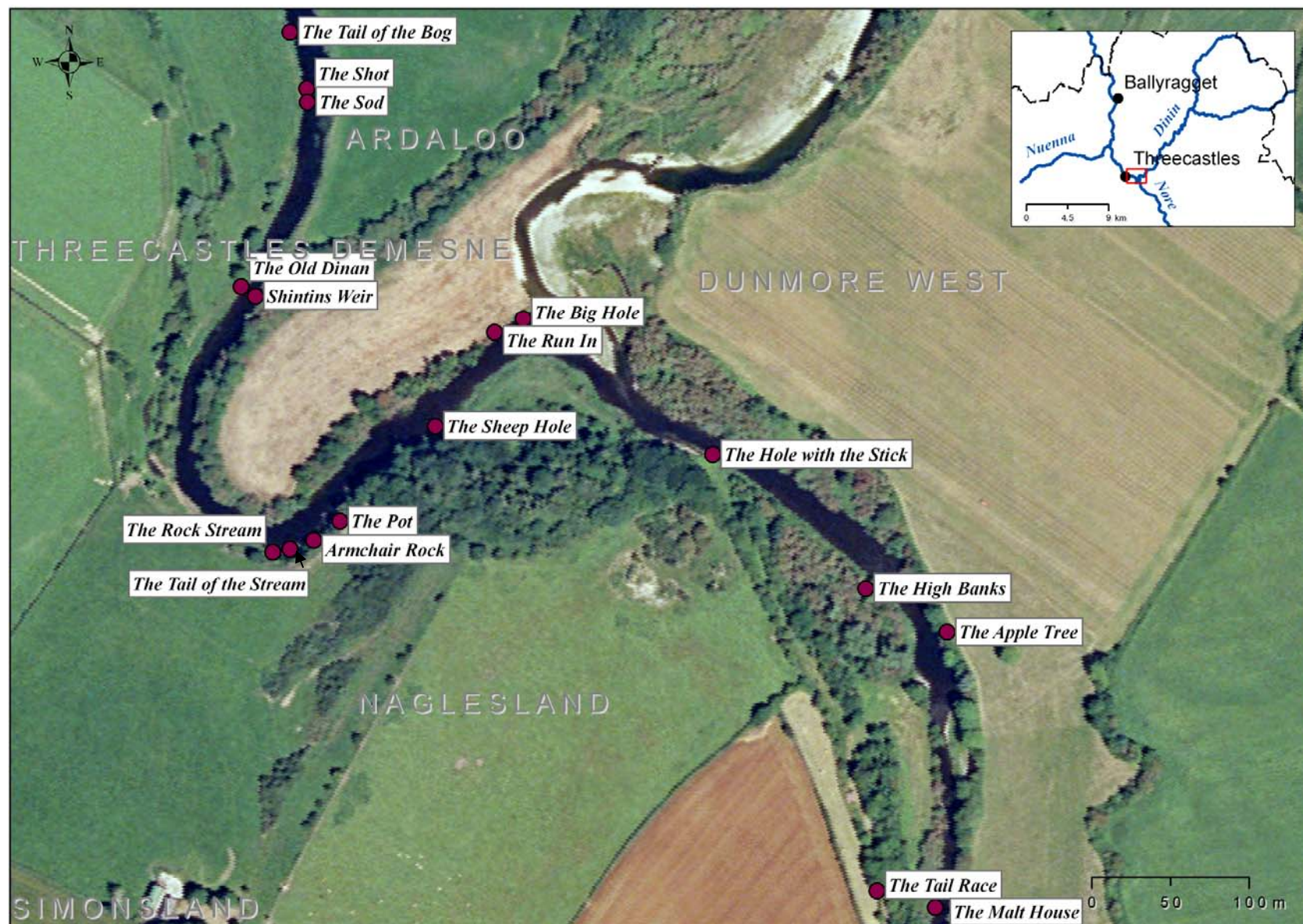


## MAP 15 River Names





# MAP 16 River Names





## MAP 17 River Names



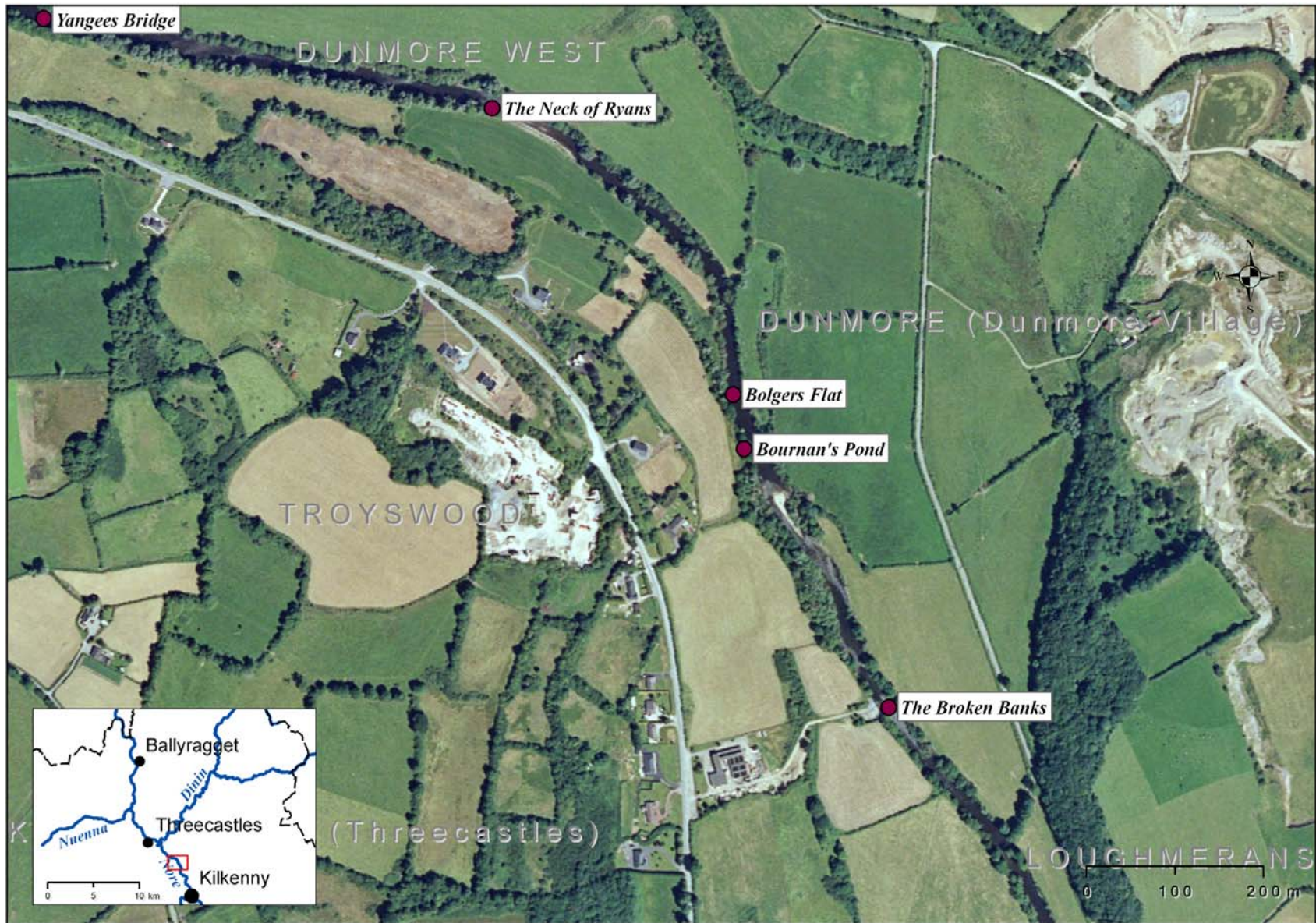


## MAP 18 River Names



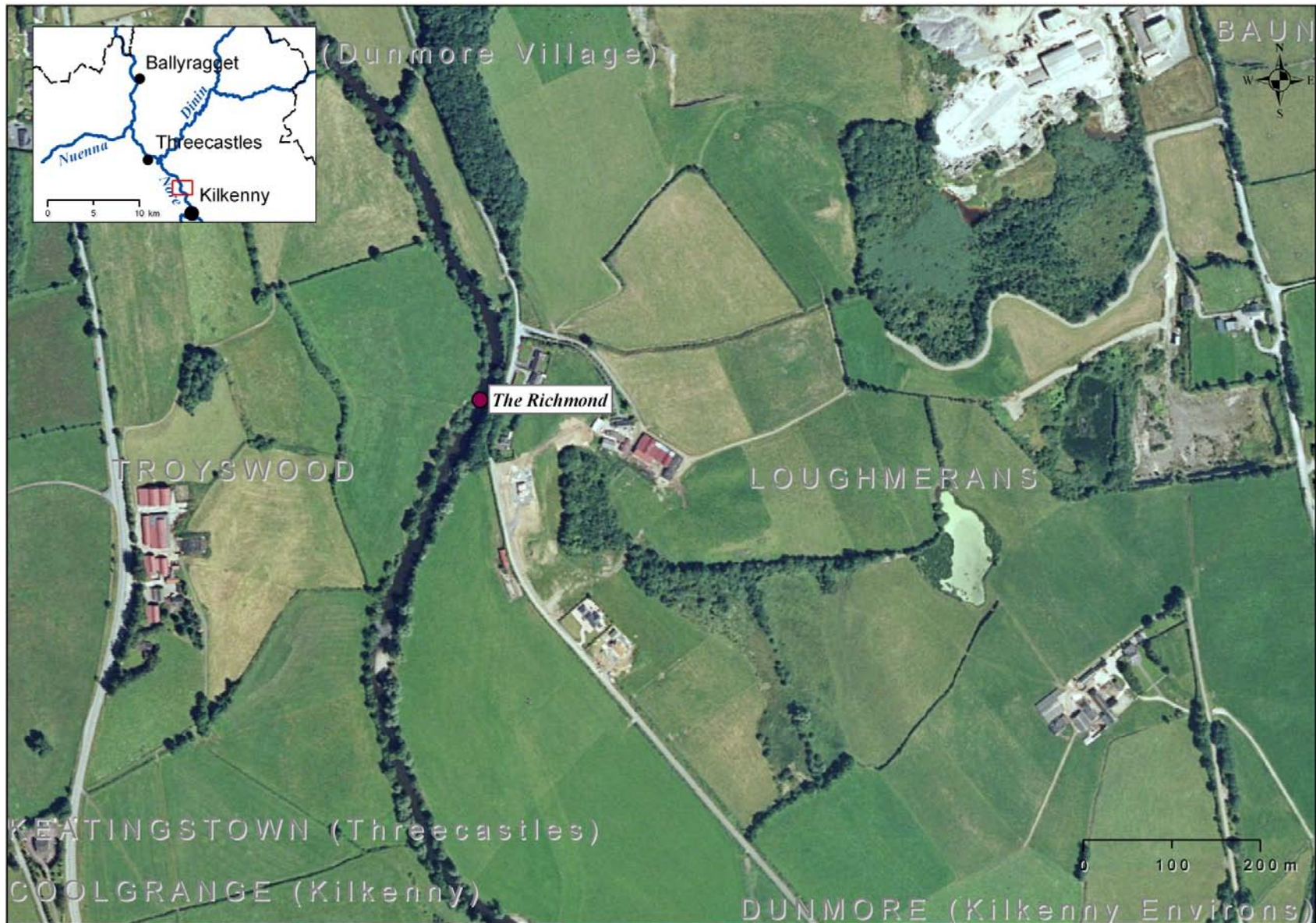


## MAP 19 River Names





## MAP 20 River Names





## MAP 21 River Names





## MAP 22 River Names





## MAP 23 River Names





## MAP 24 River Names





## MAP 25 River Names

