COME AND EXPLORE THE RIVER NORE



The Atlantic Salmon (Salmo salar) hatch in the Nore river gravels and spend the first years of their lives feeding here before heading out to the Atlantic. Incredibly, after a year or more at sea they then return to their birthplace to breed.



| Image by Laura Walsh Ballyragget Castle is an example of a fortified residence from the 15th and 16th centuries. It, along with other tower houses, was deliberately sited to defend the important routeway of the River Nore.



Anglers like Jack Phelan and Tim Keoghan provided a total of 94 local river-names. Many of these refer to fishing stands. The river-names are almost all in English and are probably of relatively recent origin. This is a reminder that place-names and river-names are constantly evolving.



In the 18th century rural settlement patterns were Landlords. This was known as the 'Age of Grange Demense, shown above.



The Nore Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis) is not found anywhere else in the world. They can live to over 100 years of age and are on the verge of extinction. Accordingly, they are strictly protected.

completely reorganised by new English Protestant Improvement' and was the origin of most of the landed estates created along the river valley like

The Church Yard hole The Rath Hole

Ballyragget

Dick Macks Island

The Garden Stream

The Swallow Hole Lismaine Bridge

The Short Strip

The Long Strip

Threecastles

The Tail of

the Bracken

Ardaloo

Pieries

The Shot

Bridge

Over 150 small circular burial mounds known as ring barrows from the Bronze Age (2500 800BC) are spread along the valleys of the northern Nore and Dinin rivers.



Nore

The Gut

Ballyragget Bridge

Tom Delanys Garden

The River Nore runs through 66 townlands north of Kilkenny City. Townlands are the basic administrative unit in Ireland. They originated as tribal boundaries in the medieval period.

The

Nuenna



The Guelder Rose (Viburnum opulus) is common in hedgerows on damp soils in the river valley. Many hedgerows in the area date back to the 18th century and were established as a result of the Enclosure Acts. Hedgerows are very important habitats for wildlife, especially birds.

Yankees Bridge



A Gabhlóg like the one shown here is used to rest fishing rods.



During the 15th century even churches needed defences. This 'Murderhole' in the tower of Threecastles Church would have been used to drop boiling water or anything else to hand onto the heads of unwelcome visitors.



From the 9th to the 12th century, the Irish lived in defended settlements called ringforts. This is a cropmark of a destroyed ringfort at Threecastles.

The Hole with the Stick

Caney Island

The weavers and spinners of Greenvale woollen mill in the 1920's. The mill was built by Ellen Countess of Desart in 1906 as part of Kilkenny's

'Industrial Revolution'.

Mother Nore

'On thy banks' twere sweet to linger, Sweet to stem thy summer stream;

Sweet to woo, and wed, and die beside thee,

Anonymous poem

c.1850

Thou, of waters, fairest queen'

This suspension bridge was built by Ellen Countess of Desart to link Talbotsinch village to the Greenvale woollen mills on the far bank. It was destroyed in the great flood of 1947. The footings of the bridge can still be seen today at Bishopsmeadows.



Courtesy of the K.A.S. collection The Silly-bub Ditch

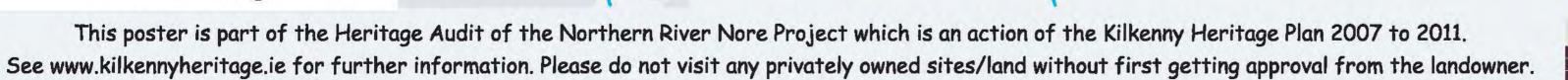
> This view of the city from c.1819 shows the Castle and John's Bridge; Chancellor's Mills is on the right and Greensbridge Mill is The Meadows on the left, in the foreground. Green's Bridge

John's Bridge Kilkenny Castle The Breagagh

Key

• Caney Island = local river name

The Nuenna = tributary = bridge









Ossory Bridge

