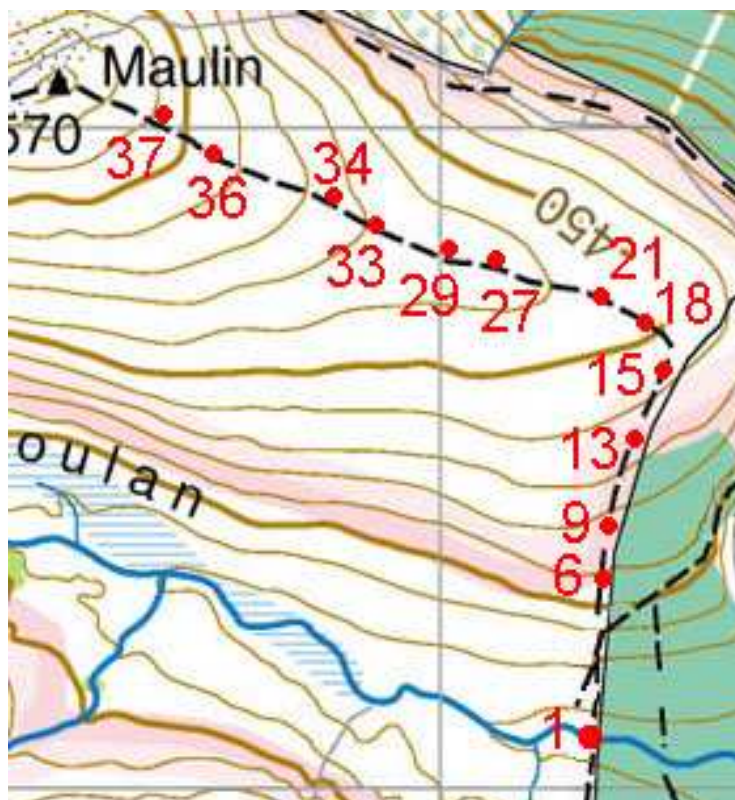


Wicklow Mountains Path Survey

Maulin east	
Start to Finish:	O 1923 1207 to O 18438 13088
Altitude (lowest – highest):	330m - 570m
Weather:	Windy, overcast, after rain in the morning
Access:	Crone forest car park
Surveyed by:	John Monaghan, 30 / 7 / 02 and 8 / 6 / 03



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Note: Photographs 88 – 99 taken in July 2002; photographs 1 – 27 in June 2003

No	Pos Irish Grid O	Comments / Photographs
1	1923 1207	Start at bridge over Dargle River, Glensoulan valley

2

The path here, part of the Wicklow Way, is a watercourse in wet weather with deep gullies from water erosion;

The path from the bridge, on grass is initially = 4m wide, widening out to a total width of 15m higher up

Going north up the steep slope, it is badly pockmarked, the mineral soil being washed down / blown away; in places down to bare stone

pic88, from the far (south) slope, shows the path from the bridge up, widening as it ascends



3



pic27: Mountain Meitheal treadway on the south bank of the Dargle

4



pic26: the bridge over the Dargle River; new treadway on the far bank

5





pic25 looking back down towards the start; multiple paths; total path width = 9m



6

19263
12300

pic1 looking back down, shows the path; walkers turning into the forest to follow the Wicklow Way below; note water damage in the middle of the path



7	same	 <p data-bbox="431 814 1198 846">pic2 looking up ahead shows the general state of the path</p>
8	50m on up	<p data-bbox="431 915 1312 982">pic3 looking up shows water damage on the left (tape = 1m) and a narrow walkway on the right; total path width = 4m</p> 

9	19274 12395	<p>pic23 looking up, shows walkways on either side, watercourse in the middle of the path; path width = 3m</p> 
10	60m on up	<p>pic4 looking up shows water damage in the middle; pathways at either side; 2 walkers descending</p>  <p>note: the large, light coloured rock seen here in the middle of the picture is near the skyline in pic23, this to give an idea of location</p>

11



pic89, looking back down to the river, shows the slope





12

pic90 closeup, shows the path – mineral soil, grass and loose stone, bracken on either side



13	19313 12518	<p data-bbox="430 142 1291 210">At the top of the forest, pic5 closeup shows the path widening on the right hand side</p>  <p data-bbox="430 882 1315 945">New path on right-hand side (tape = 0.5m); loose stone and gravel in the watercourse in the middle; solid surface on the LHS</p>
14		<p data-bbox="430 987 1315 1050">pic91, above the forest, looking back down, shows the loose stone path about 1 metre wide; tape = 0.5m</p> 

15	19354 12632	<p>50m on up from the last pic, pic92 looking up and ahead, shows the stony path now widening to 2 metres with a "soft shoulder" of damaged heather on the right; tape = 0.5m</p>  <p>(the path turns left up at the skyline in the photograph)</p>
16		<p>pic93 looking back towards the forest, shows the path now doubling in width from stone surface to peat</p> 

17

pic94 at the same place, shows the path ahead;



immediately ahead the path "splits", stone on the left, peat on the right, with an island of heather in the middle; the total path width is 5m here


(This is a snapshot of what the Djouce track, now 30m at its widest, probably looked like 15 years ago)



18

19316
12741

50m on from the last photograph, pic7 shows the path (peat, stone and islands of heather) breaking up and now widening out to 8m



19	50m on	pic95 shows the path ahead to Maulin summit 
20	same	pic96 looking back 
21	19248 12775	over the next 50m the path widens out to 15m at its widest

22		<p>at the end of the wide section, the path narrows; however pic8 shows a new path developing on the left; tape = 0.5m</p> 
23	40m on	<p>where stone path is seen to change direction in pic8, there are three separate paths</p>
24		<p>pic97 shows a long distance view of the path ahead; note the wide areas of bare peat and damaged heather in the foreground</p> 

25



pic98 looking back, shows the path, the Great Sugarloaf in the background







26


pic99 shows the path ahead




27	19100 12813	pic9 looking ahead shows new path forming in the heather on the right; tape = 0.5m 
28	19052 12817	50m long stretch of stony path, 4-6m wide
29	19008 12833	pic10 looking back shows the path crossing a wide peaty area, 40m long by 10m wide; Big Sugarloaf back left 

30	same	<p data-bbox="430 142 1312 279">pic11 looking ahead shows the path to the summit; note the "soft shoulder" of peat on the right stretching from the foreground to the middle distance; also the "islands" of grass / heather in the middle distance;</p>  <p data-bbox="430 947 1214 982">the path width narrows (in foreground of photograph) to 5m</p>
31		<p data-bbox="430 1052 1286 1121">at the "islands" mentioned in the previous point, pic12 shows the path ahead; note the damage on the right</p> 

<p>32</p>	<p>18937 12861</p>	<p>pic13 shows the damaged heather and bare peat (tape = 0.5m); this area needs to be protected soon to stop a dramatic widening of the path</p> 
<p>33</p>	<p>18900 12877</p>	<p>pic14 looking back down shows the general widening of the path, the vulnerable peat areas on the left; note also the separate path on the right</p>  <p>the width of the stone path at the bottom of the photograph is 1.5m, soon to be widened...?</p>

<p>34</p>	<p>18845 12905</p>	<p>(at a grassy step on the right of the path), the beginning of a section with peat on the right of the path and stone on the left;</p>  <p>pic15 shows a group of walkers descending, the peat surface more comfortable to walk on than the rough stone</p>
<p>35</p>	<p>30m on up</p>	<p>pic16 shows the walkers passing by, all treading on the peat, no-one on the stone</p> 
<p>36</p>	<p>18670 12979</p>	<p>the end of the section with peat on the right, stone on the left; path width here = 8m</p>

37	18600 13022	path now narrows to 5m, mainly stone with about 1m of peat on the RHS
38	18500 13062	<p>pic21 looking back down; the path surface of grass and rock on mineral soil; path width = 4m (unseen in the photograph: rain)</p> 
39		path widens out to 6m as it reaches the summit area
40	18438 13088	Maulin summit; the summit area is eroded / worn but fairly stable
		END