

**BELLAGHY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**TIRONY DOLMEN**  
**One mile NW of Maghera**

Tirony Dolmen is a burial tomb (4-6 thousand years old) in which the cremated remains of the dead were placed.

In earlier times a cairn of small stones would have covered it, at least partially. Dolmen means "stone table". These are known as portal tombs because of the two large uprights upon which the capstone rests at its highest end which form the entrance to the tomb.

In the small field to the south there is rumoured to be a souterraine or artificial cave. Normally associated with ringforts, these caves were constructed as a refuge in times of danger between the sixth and twelfth centuries.