

CORK CITY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Patrick's Hill		
Other names used for site			
IGH THEME	IGH 10 Devonian		
TOWNLAND(S)			
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	In Cork City		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	74-1		
ITM CO-ORDINATES	567674E 572478N		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	87	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO:	25

Outline Site Description

An outcrop built into a wall at the top of Patrick's Hill, with views looking down towards the limestone lowlands.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The outcrop is of sandstone from the Gyleen Formation of the Upper Devonian, with views over a landscape of preferentially eroded Lower Carboniferous limestones immediately to the south.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Situated at the top of Patrick's Hill, a wall has been built around an outcrop of the Old Red Sandstone that underlies much of Cork City. Sub-vertical bedding reflects the site's position on the northern limb of the Cork Syncline. The rapid descent when looking south down Patrick's Hill highlights the change in erodibility between the sandstone bedrock at the top of the hill to softer limestone bedrock in the south.

Site Importance - County Geological Site

The site is a good example of how variations in bedrock have shaped the landscape of Cork City, and shows one of the key lithologies within the city.

Management/promotion issues

Visiting the outcrop is easy, though there is a steep climb if travelling on foot. While this site may primarily be of interest to those considering the context of Cork City as a whole, given its easy accessibility and the good exposure of Old Red Sandstone, this site could easily be promoted for the general public or schools.



View from the top of Patrick's Hill looking south towards the preferentially eroded limestones. A sandstone outcrop with sub-vertical bedding is found incorporated into the western wall, seen to the right.



Sandstone outcropping in part of the wall on Patrick's Hill

