

CLARE - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE

Gull Island, Tullig Point and Truskleeve section

Other names used for site

TOWNLAND(S)

Quilty, Oughterard, Tullig, Truskleeve

NEAREST TOWN

Carrigaholt

SIX INCH MAP NUMBER

65

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE

077000 151500 = Q 77 51 to

080000 155000 = Q 800 550

Mid range: 078720 154150

1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER

63

1/2 inch Sheet No. 14

Outline Site Description

Coastal cliffs section.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Upper Carboniferous Namurian sandstones and siltstones

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The coastal section around Gull Island and Tullig Point displays some of the best sections in Clare of the Shannon Group and Central Clare Group sedimentary rocks which infilled the Clare Basin in the Namurian, and which now are the foundation of most of south west and central County Clare. It is the type section for the Gull Island Formation of the Shannon Group. The top of this Group is marked by the R1 marine band with goniatite fossil markers. The Tullig Sandstone representing the Tullig Cyclothem is followed northwards by sandstones and siltstones of the Central Clare Group representing the Kilkee Cyclothem. These rocks are broadly lateral equivalents of what is seen in the lower part of the Cliffs of Moher. There are an extensive range of sedimentary structures, and also tectonic structures, many of which were formed at the time of deposition, and record the sediment instability on the basin slopes. There are slides, growth faults and slumps present. Key sections are at Gullisland to Tullig Point and at Illaunglass and Pouladav.

Site Importance

The site is at least of National importance and may be proposed for NHA designation under the IGH 9 Upper Carboniferous and Permian theme of the GSI's IGH Programme.

Management/promotion issues

These sections are frequently visited by oil industry and academic field parties. Maintaining access is important. There are no known access problems at present, but concerns have been expressed to GSI over the removal by quarrying of some key sections around Tullig Point.



A view westwards to the cliffs at Trusklieve, indicating the sort of exposures available to view or examine in the site

Gull Island, Tullig Point and Trusklieve section

