

## GALWAY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	<b>Cornamona</b>
Other names used for site	<i>Corr na Móna</i>
<b>IGH THEME</b>	<b>IGH5 Precambrian</b>
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	<b>Corr na Móna</b>
<b>NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE</b>	<b>Corr na Móna</b>
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>ITM CO-ORDINATES</b>	<b>503960E 752660N (centre of feature)</b>
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NO. 38</b>	<b>GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NOS. 10, 11</b>

### **Outline Site Description**

A partly-vegetated roadside cliff in the village of Corr na Móna.

### **Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type**

Bedrock is Cornamona Marble Formation, part of the Neoproterozoic age Dalradian Supergroup. Though still the subject of debate, the formation is generally assigned to the Argyll Group. The formation comprises black schists, marbles and marble breccias.

### **Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest**

This site hosts a small grey, graphite marble cliff on the roadside in Corr na Móna village. The outcrop occupies the crest of the Joyces Antiform (D4), a major structural feature in the Connemara Dalradian. The Cornamona Marble Formation occurs above the Renvyle-Bofin Slide, also a major structural feature in Connemara.

A networked texture of graphite with calcite filling the holes has been noted in the Cornamona Marble Formation, in an area of staurolite-garnet grade metamorphism. The texture has been described as resembling a cellular structure, and it is understood that these structures may be of organic origin, possibly a primitive plant.

### **Site Importance – County Geological Site**

This is an important County Geological Site because it may provide some of the rarest records of Precambrian life identified in the Dalradian Supergroup in Ireland.

### **Management/promotion issues**

The site is easily accessed on the roadside. The cliff and outcrop should be protected from any measures such as road widening that may damage or destroy that exposed marbles. The site is however, not deemed suitable for public promotion, since the textural features of interest are not observable in the field, but only with a thin section and a microscope. In addition, road safety is an issue.



Corr na Móna Bridge and R345 road looking north. Low vegetation-covered cliff visible to right of white house.



Folds visible in marble outcrop at roadside cliff.



Folds visible in marble outcrop at roadside cliff.



Close up of marble outcrop at roadside cliff.



Cliff viewed looking west towards Post Office.



