

## LEITRIM - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	<b>Good Friday Cave</b>
Other names used for site	
<b>IGH THEME</b>	<b>IGH1 Karst</b>
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	<b>Striff</b>
<b>NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE</b>	<b>Dromahair</b>
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>ITM CO-ORDINATES</b>	<b>579500E 834045N</b>
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER 16</b>	<b>GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 7</b>
<b>GISCODE LM016</b>	

### **Outline Site Description**

A 195m long, stream cave, beside the Striff River near Dromahair.

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

Good Friday Cave is formed within Dartry Limestone Formation, of Mississippian (Lower Carboniferous) age.

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

Good Friday Cave is formed within the Dartry Limestone Formation, which is relatively free of chert beds and nodules, compared to the underlying Glencar Limestone Formation. Hence Good Friday Cave is a near horizontal stream cave, unusual compared to most Leitrim caves which are primarily vertical potholes. The cave was discovered in 1990, but not surveyed until 2017.

The entrance is a very narrow slot beside the Striff River, and the cave passes underneath the river. It ends in a sump upstream, and there are fine calcite formations (stalactites and flowstone) in the inner sections. The water in the cave is assumed to come from Striff Swallett, which is a swallow hole where water sinks underground less than 150m away from the sump end of the cave.

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

As a relatively unusual stream cave, in a Leitrim context, the site merits inclusion as a County Geological Site.

### **Management/promotion issues**

The cave entrance is in a private garden and there is no access without landowner permission. The cave is not suitable for general promotion, and is unsafe except for properly equipped and experienced cavers.



The view over the entrance to Good Friday Cave, in a private garden.



