

LEITRIM - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Lackagh Sandstone Quarry
Other names used for site	Drumkeerin Stone Quarry
IGH THEMES	IGH9 Upper Carboniferous, IGH15 Economic Geology
TOWNLAND(S)	Liscuillew Upper
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Drumkeeran
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	18
ITM CO-ORDINATES	590770E 821050N (quarry entrance)
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER 26	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 7
GISCODE LM018	

Outline Site Description

Operational stone quarry on hillside site.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Namurian (middle Carboniferous) sandstone of the Lackagh Sandstone Formation (c. 320 Ma).

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The Lackagh Sandstone Formation comprises interbedded sandstones, siltstones and mudstones overlain by thick-bedded channel sandstone units that include coal-bearing cyclothems. The hard channel sandstones have resisted erosion to form the summits of the flat-topped hills that surround Lough Allen: Sliabh an Iarainn (Slieve Anierin), Kilronan, Corry Mountain and the Lackagh Hills. The variably-coloured sandstones (white, cream, yellow, brown) have long been quarried for use as building stones and, in more recent years, as decorative pebbles and building sand.

Drumkeerin Stone quarry occupies a seven-hectare site on the north side of Corry Mountain that has apparently been worked for over 100 years. It produces a range of stone products including dimension stone, decorative stone chips and building sand. Large quarry faces on three sides provide excellent exposure of the thick-bedded, shallow-dipping sandstone.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

The site provides excellent exposures of the Lackagh Sandstone Formation. It is the only working quarry in Leitrim exploiting the Lackagh Sandstone and its range of products demonstrate the versatility of the rock. This is recommended as a County Geological Site as the best and most accessible example of a quarry within this significant geological formation.

Management/promotion issues

This is a private, working quarry and access is by permission of the owner. No promotion is required. Steps should be taken to ensure preservation of at least part of the main, southwestern quarry face upon future cessation of quarrying activities. The site is not within any protected area.



Drumkeerin Stone quarry, view of south face, eastern end.



Large sandstone blocks on quarry floor.



View of quarry floor with stockpiles of screened material; quarry office in background.



View to south face with quarried sandstone blocks on quarry floor.

