

LEITRIM - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Lough Rinn Drumlins
Other names used for site	Mohill Drumlins
IGH THEME	IGH7 Quaternary
TOWNLAND(S)	Lisdadanan, Clooncahir, Cloonlaughil, Aghamore, Lakefield Demesne, Breanross North, Tawnagh More, Rinn, Rinn Demesne, Drumhirk, Gortletteragh, Drumbad, Farnaght, Clooncoe, Tulcon
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Mohill
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	35, 36
ITM CO-ORDINATES	611000E 793150N (centre of site)
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER 33	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 12
GISCODE LM022	

Outline Site Description

This site forms part of a small, discrete field of drumlins, south and southeast of Mohill Village. It covers an area of 24km², and includes approximately 20 drumlin features.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The drumlins are formed on bedrock which is mainly of Lower Carboniferous limestones (c. 330 Ma). The features themselves are Quaternary in age, having been deposited at the base of the ice sheet that moved north-northwest to south-southeast across this part of Ireland during the maximum period of the last Ice Age.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The drumlin field is not only unusual in its small size and 'discreteness', but is unusual in that the drumlins are spindle-shaped i.e. they are long and narrow, circular in the middle, and have tapering ends.

The features are generally 500m to 1km long and 300m to 400m or so wide. They attain a maximum height of about 30m but are typically 20m or so high.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

Being set among the extensive field of drumlinised ribbed moraines in north central Ireland, this small field of drumlins is unusual in that it comprises a small number of discrete, spindle-shaped drumlins, which sit on their own within the wider ribbed moraine landscape.

Management/promotion issues

This is an excellent site in terms of macro-scale Quaternary subglacial geomorphology. The features as a whole are too large to define as a single site with a specific boundary, as would be required for NHA status; it should be noted that the majority of the site is part of a number of small NHAs already (Lough Rinn, Cloncoe Wood and Lough, Lough Errew, Lough Sallagh). However, the landscape itself is particularly noteworthy and should be mentioned as a unique landscape element within the Leitrim County Development Plan. A colour leaflet on 'The Drumlins of County Leitrim' could be produced.



View eastwards across Lough Errew to one of the forested, spindle-shaped drumlins.



Rush-dominated drumlin in Clooncoe Townland.



View across drumlins flanking Rinn lough from Tulcon Townland.



The long, narrow drumlins along the northwestern side of Lough Rinn.

