

LEITRIM - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Peakadaw landslips
Other names used for site	Peakadaw
IGH THEME	IGH1 Karst, IGH7 Quaternary
TOWNLAND(S)	Creevelea, Magheramore
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Manorhamilton
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	3
ITM CO-ORDINATES	580515E 846475N
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER 16	GS1 BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 7
GISCODE LM024	

Outline Site Description

Peakadaw is a limestone pinnacle on a landslip on the southwestern side of Glenade and the site also comprises a series of landslips of the limestone escarpment.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The Dartry Limestone Formation forms the escarpment along the southwestern side of Glenade. It overlies the Glencar Limestone Formation. Both are of Mississippian (Lower Carboniferous) age. The landslips themselves are Quaternary in Age, having formed since the end of the last Ice Age, in the last 14,000 years.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Large landslipped blocks of Dartry Limestone Formation have foundered along the escarpment on this section of the southwestern side of Glenade. They have dropped in steps, either on the underlying Glencar Limestone Formation, or on the Benbulbin Shale Formation below that. The blocks show little rotational movement and thus comprise a series of platforms that have 'stepped down' along the side of the valley. The exception to this is towards the outer, downslope blocks, which have some tilt of the normally flat lying limestone beds.

As with the Swiss Valley in Glencar and Eagle's Rock further northwest in Glenade, these landslips probably occurred soon after the glaciers in the Glenade and Glencar valleys melted away around 14,000 years ago. The lack of support from the ice mass in a glacially deepened 'U' shaped valley meant the sides were prone to collapse, with large blocks breaking away from the cliffs.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

The Peakadaw pinnacle is a local landmark but the collective suite of landslips is worthy of recognition as a County Geological Site.

Management/promotion issues

The best view of the landslips is probably from above on the edge of the escarpment, but they are not somewhere to promote other than as a landform to see from adjacent roads and paths.



The view eastward from above Peakadaw across the landslips.



Peakadaw limestone pinnacle.



Close up view of flat topped landslip.

