

# MONAGHAN - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	Leeg Drumlin		
Other names used for site			
<b>IGH THEME</b>	IGH7 Quaternary		
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	Leeg		
<b>NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE</b>	Carrickmacross		
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	34		
<b>ITM CO-ORDINATES</b>	687600E 798700N (centre of feature)		
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER</b>	35	<b>GSi BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.</b>	8/9

## Outline Site Description

The Leeg drumlin is a drumlin which assumes a barchan, or crescent, shape. This form is extremely rare with only a few known out of about 25,000 drumlins in Ireland.

## Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The drumlin is formed on Lower Carboniferous limestone bedrock. The drumlin itself is Quaternary in age, having been deposited at the base of a southeastward-moving ice sheet during the last Ice Age.

## Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The shape of the drumlin is unique within the main drumlin belt of north central Ireland. Other examples of crescent-shaped drumlins in Ireland are known only from the Westport area. The drumlin is approximately 40m high, 850m wide and 560m long.

The drumlin is comprised of glacial till, which is comprised mainly of Lower Palaeozoic clasts that have been carried by the ice sheet from the northwest as 'erratics'.

The feature can be seen as a hybrid between a small ribbed moraine and a drumlin, but as it is surrounded by other discrete drumlins the term 'barchanoid drumlin' is more appropriate.

## Site Importance – County Geological Site

This drumlin is a testament to the complex processes that occur at the base of an ice sheet. Its unusual form means it is a geological 'oddity' in this part of Ireland. The rarity of such drumlins warrants County Geological Site status.

## Management/promotion issues

The Leeg Drumlin is comprised of till and is therefore unlikely to be of interest as an aggregate source. Nevertheless, quarrying should be prohibited in order to preserve the integrity of the landform.



The Leeg drumlin, viewed from the east.



Viewed from the southwest, the barchans shape of the Leeg drumlin is clearly seen.



