

MAYO - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Derryharriff
Other names used for site	Stream Section near Derryharriff
IGH THEME	IGH10 Devonian
TOWNLAND(S)	Derryharriff North
NEAREST TOWN	Castlebar
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	69
ITM CO-ORDINATES	511170E 793510N
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NO. 38	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NOS. 10, 11
GIS Code MO042	

Outline Site Description

This site comprises brown/rust coloured bedrock exposed in a stream bed.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Lower Devonian age (c. 419–400 million years ago) sandstones and mudrocks (Derryharriff Formation) and Dalradian age (c. 750–600 million years ago) rocks of the Raheen Barr Succession (schist, quartzites, metavolcanics).

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Brown/rust coloured sandstones of the Devonian age Derryharriff Formation (part of the Islandeady Group) overlie older Dalradian rocks of the Raheen Barr Succession (not exposed at the site). The contact between the Devonian and Dalradian rocks is an unconformity (indicating a break in the geological record). However, the unconformable contact is not exposed at the site. The Raheen Barr Succession probably ranges from the Islay to Easdale subgroups of the Middle Dalradian Argyll Group. Miospores identified in the Derryharriff Formation indicate a Lower Devonian age of the rocks.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

This site is of county geological site importance.

Management/promotion issues

The site comprises a poorly exposed section of Devonian rocks in a stream bed which is partly overgrown. The site is not easily accessible. The significance of the site is in regional geological context, and the site itself is not of significant interest to the public.



View southeast of road with little bridge over Derryharriff stream.



Main Devonian outcrop, looking east.



View upstream, north.



View southwest to farm by stream.



View downstream, south.



Looking south towards the overgrown stream bed.

