

## MAYO - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	Kilgeever
Other names used for site	
<b>IGH THEME</b>	IGH15 Economic Geology
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	Kilgeever
<b>NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE</b>	Louisburgh
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	86
<b>ITM CO-ORDINATES</b>	484160E 780770N
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NO. 30</b>	<b>GSi BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NOs. 10, 11</b>
<b>GIS Code MO066</b>	

### Outline Site Description

Inland rocky outcrops along the south side of Clew Bay.

### Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Silurian age quartzite bedrock of the Cregganbaun Formation.

### Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Several occurrences of gold mineralisation have been located along a 12km belt to the south of Clew Bay. The Cregganbaun Quartzite Formation bedrock forms a prominent east-west ridge that culminates in the central part in the peak of Croagh Patrick (765m). The low ground to the north and south of the ridge is blanketed by a thick layer of glacial drift, such that bedrock exposure is generally poor in this area.

At Kilgeever, a 0.5 tonne bulk sample yielded grades of c. 6.7grams/tonne. Sub-economic grades have been encountered by drilling to the east and west of the site. Analysis of the samples indicates that the gold is approximately 90% gold (Au) and 10% silver (Ag). Specks of visible gold have been identified in a horizontal band of quartz some 20 cm thick, at the foot of the cliff beside the cemetery car park near Kilgeever Abbey. Minor drusy quartz is also present in vertical strings.

### Site Importance – County Geological Site; recommended for Geological NHA

The site is significant as it is one of several occurrences of gold that have been discovered in the rocks of the South Mayo region.

### Management/promotion issues

The occurrences of gold in the bedrock at the site are not easily observable in the field. Any illegal extraction of the ore-bearing rock should be prohibited.



Outcrops in low cliffs at parking area by the cemetery at Kilgeever, looking SE.



Samples of quartz at Kilgeever.



Parking area by the cemetery at Kilgeever, looking NW. Summit of Knockmore (Clare Island) visible in distance.



