

ROSCOMMON - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE

Boyle Drumlins

Other names used for site

IGH THEME

IGH7 Quaternary

TOWNLAND(S)

Ross, Ardmoyle, Lecarrow, Coolnagranshy, Carrownurlaur, Ballylugnagon, Glebe, Ballytrasna, Kilbryan, Derrybeg, Ardlona, Lisgullaun, Breandrum, Harepark, Ballinphuill, Carrickmore, Rockingham, Derrymaquick, Knockadoo, Ballybaun, Knockadoobrusna, Carrownaun, Lisserdrea, Tinacarra, Lowparks, Greatmeadow, Rathtinaun, Ardgallin, Knocknacloy, Aghnagrang, Termon, Letfordspark, Bellspark, Drumanone, Ardsallagh, Copse, Ardcorcoran, Erris, Reask, Emlagh, Mocmoyne, Knocknashee, Ballykeevican, Rathtermon, Lisserrough, Lismerraun, Ardmore, Knockavroe, Grange Beg, Cashelfinoge, Warren, Tawnytaskin

NEAREST TOWN

Boyle

SIX INCH MAP NUMBER

5, 6, 9, 10

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE

177777 300500 (centre of features)

1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER

32, 33 1/2 inch Sheet No. 7, 12

Outline Site Description

This field of drumlins forms part of a small, discrete field of these features, south and southwest of Boyle town. It covers an area of 16 by 8 kilometres, and includes approx. 200 drumlin features. A number of the drumlins southwest of the town are superimposed on ribbed moraine features.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The drumlins are formed on bedrock which is Lower Carboniferous limestone. The features themselves are Quaternary in age, having been deposited at the base of the ice sheet moving northeast to southwest 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 a marked upland area around the Plains of Boyle also contains high, superimposed drumlin features.

The features are generally 500m-1km long and 300m-400m or so wide. They attain a maximum height of about 30m and are usually 20m or so in elevation.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

This is one of the finest fields of discrete drumlins in the country.

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. However the landscape itself is particularly noteworthy and should be mentioned as unique in landscape elements within the Roscommon County Development Plan. A colour leaflet on 'The Drumlins of County Roscommon' could be produced.



A view of Boyle drumlins, looking north, showing the east-west trend of the drumlins.



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