

TIPPERARY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Ballyrichard Quarry
Other names used for site	
IGH THEME	IGH8 Lower Carboniferous
TOWNLAND(S)	Ballyrichard
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Drangan, Mullinahone
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	63
ITM CO-ORDINATES	629365E 641070N
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER 67	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO. 18

Outline Site Description

A small, very overgrown, disused quarry.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The quarry was excavated in Carboniferous limestone, from around 340 million years ago. It is mapped as the Clogrenan Formation which is a widespread formation in SE Ireland and which is composed of a generally clean crinoidal limestone.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

In this particular disused quarry there were 11 m of limestone beds exposed. They are recorded as well bedded limestone with a variety of facies represented including shallow subtidal to subaerial environments. They include palaeokarstic horizons. Some of these lithological facies represented in the quarry are not found in other successions.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

The unusual variety of different facies represented in the quarry make it worthy of recognition as a County Geological Site.

Management/promotion issues

The quarry is included as a County Geological Site, but the exposures are heavily obscured by dense vegetation growth, mostly trees. Some major clearance is required to make the rock exposures available again, or else a resumption of quarrying.



A view of the Ballyrichard Quarry faces showing how overgrown it is.



A view into the Ballyrichard Quarry.



A view of the Ballyrichard Quarry entrance.

