

TIPPERARY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Dangan Mushroom Rock		
Other names used for site			
IGH THEME	IGH1 Karst		
TOWNLAND(S)	Dangan		
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Ballyporeen		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	86		
ITM CO-ORDINATES	592153E 613580N		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	74	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	22

Outline Site Description

An isolated, single mushroom rock, sits in a pasture field.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The mushroom rock is composed of Carboniferous limestone and shows solutional weathering that has occurred since the last Ice Age, during the Holocene epoch (last 10,000 years).

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Mushroom rocks are a relatively rare phenomenon across the country and this example is a previously undocumented one. The undercut sections of the limestone bedrock exposures are thought to have been dissolved by waters in former temporary lakes, probably following soon after the melting of glacial ice, at the end of the Ice Age, around 10,000 years ago. Some other examples are thought to have been dissolved below bog or soils, which have subsequently shrunk back, perhaps after natural or man-made drainage. The undercutting on the Dangan Mushroom Rock is distinctly flat on the base of the overhanging section, and is not clearly attributable to one particular mechanism of solution.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

The rarity of mushroom rocks and the quality of this isolated example means it deserves recognition as a County Geological Site.

Management/promotion issues

The landowners appreciate and value the mushroom rock and it is not under any threat. It is situated on private farmland and there is no access without permission.



Views of the Dangan Mushroom Rock across the field, from the northwest.



View of the Dangan Mushroom Rock.



Close-up view of Dangan Mushroom Rock.



View of the Dangan Mushroom Rock from close-up.

