

TIPPERARY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Latteragh Quarry		
Other names used for site			
IGH THEME	IGH4 Cambrian-Silurian		
TOWNLAND(S)	Lackenavorna		
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Borrisoleigh		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	27		
ITM CO-ORDINATES	595860E 672690N (centre of quarry)		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	59	GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	18

Outline Site Description

A large, working quarry, north of Borrisoleigh.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The quarry at Latteragh is excavated into Silurian aged greywackes and siltstones of the Hollyford Formation, which is mapped all across the Slieve Felim inlier.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Despite the extensive area of the Slieve Felim inlier of Silurian rocks, surrounded by younger Devonian and Carboniferous rocks, there are relatively few exposures. A major quarry gives a good representation of the geology. The rocks exposed are Hollyford Formation grey siltstones and greywackes – originally deposited as turbidite deposits in a deep ocean basin, when storms or earthquakes deposited sediment from shallow waters in gravity flows into the basin. There are good structural geology features exposed here and the continuity of working means that fresh faces and structures are exposed through time.

The Hollyford Formation in Latteragh Quarry provides some especially high PSV (Polished Stone Value) rock, which is especially useful in road surfacing, as it resists getting worn down and becoming smooth and therefore provides good friction for braking and accelerating. High PSV rock is most important for road safety.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

The Latteragh quarry is worth defining as a County Geological Site as a rare representative of the Slieve Felim Silurian rocks. It provides a companion site to Reafadda Quarry, Fantane Quarry and also for Carrigatogher M7 Road Cut and Birdhill M7 Road Cut.

Management/promotion issues

The Kellys of Fantane International operated quarry is a privately-operated business and there is no access to the quarry without express permission of the operators.



A view of bedding and a small shear zone in Latteragh Quarry.



A view of the Latteragh Quarry from the upper bench.



A view of the Latteragh Quarry from the Borrisoleigh to Nenagh road.

