

WICKLOW - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Wicklow Service Area
Other names used for site	Coyne's Cross
IGH THEME	IGH 4 Cambrian-Silurian
TOWNLAND(S)	Cullenmore, Kilmartin
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE:	Ashford
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	19
ITM CO-ORDINATES	728075E 700910N (centre of section)
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	56
GSi BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO:	16

Outline Site Description

This is a long cutting behind a new Motorway Service Station.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The rocks are part of the Bray Group, of Cambrian age. They are composed of quartzite, greywacke and slate.

Main Geological Interest

This fresh and large exposure of Bray Group rocks gives a more detailed picture of the primary rock lithologies and structure than is apparent in Bray Head or Rocky Valley, as they are only partially exposed sections with mostly thick quartzite units that get left as resistant outcrop.

Site Importance - County Geological Site

This is a useful new site, better than the degraded road cuttings on the N11 in the district, which have become very overgrown and weathered.

Management/promotion issues

As it is on the private land of the service station it is not freely accessible, but there is a very good view of the strata from the public areas. The Management could be approached to provide a sign explaining the rocks that are so readily visible here. As the slopes are quite steep the colonisation by vegetation will be much slower than on the road cuttings in the same rocks to the north of here on the N11 road.



An overview of the Wicklow Service Area with the large new cutting behind it.



Left: Wicklow Service Area, new cutting behind it.
Right: Some vertical beds of the Bray Group.



Wicklow Service Area, new cutting behind it.



