

## WEXFORD - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	<b>Baginbun Head</b>
Other names used for site	
<b>IGH THEME</b>	<b>IGH4 Cambrian-Silurian</b>
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	<b>Ramstown</b>
<b>NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE</b>	<b>Fethard</b>
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>ITM CO-ORDINATES</b>	<b>680030E 603450N (centre of site)</b>
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER</b>	<b>76 GSI Bedrock 1:100,000 Sheet No. 23</b>

### **Outline Site Description**

The site is a section of rocks exposed on the beach at the northern side of Baginbun Head, not the headland itself.

### **Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type**

The rocks exposed at Baginbun Head are Cambrian in age and are defined as the Booley Bay Formation.

### **Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest**

This site is a representative of the Lower Ordovician Ribband Group rocks which underlie so much of Wexford, with its companion site of Petit's Bay which displays the same rocks on the opposite side of the Baginbun Head promontory. Steeply dipping interbedded siltstones and shales are seen along with conglomerates. There are also folds, and interpreting the structures is a challenging task. As these rocks are very poorly exposed inland, the coastal exposures are critical for our interpretation and understanding of the main areas underlain by them. Baginbun Bay is an accessible place for teaching and illustrating a part of Wexford's geology, and complements Petit's Bay and Booley Bay with variations in the rocks to be seen.

### **Site Importance – County Geological Site**

This site is a good County Geological Site.

### **Management/promotion issues**

The rocks are accessed from the beach which is served by a slipway path from parking space at the cliff top. As with any coastal site, caution regarding the tides or stormy weather should be applied. If desired an explanatory signboard could be erected to explain the geology, probably in the car parking area where other information signs exist already.



The rock exposures in Baginbun Bay are accessible from the beach.



The meaning of the plaque is unknown.



Faults are apparent and easy to see.



The Booley Bay Formation shows much variation in bed thickness of siltstones and shales.

