

WEXFORD - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Carrigadaggan		
Other names used for site	Carrickadaggan		
IGH THEME	IGH2 Precambrian-Devonian Palaeontology		
TOWNLAND(S)	Carrigadaggan		
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	New Ross		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	35		
ITM CO-ORDINATES	681410E 623820N (Pillar)		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	76	GS1 BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	23

Outline Site Description

Farm hedge bank and field exposures

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The rocks here are volcanoclastic – sedimentary rocks mostly made up of fragments of volcanic rock and ash from eruptions occurring close by, along with some slates. They are of Ordovician age, from the Sandbian Period (formerly classed as Caradoc).

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

This locality has yielded a rich diverse fauna of 22 species of brachiopods, numerous trilobites, a cystoid *Echinosphaerites granulatus* and other invertebrates. They provide good palaeontological evidence for the biostratigraphy of the Duncannon Group in southeast Ireland. It is also the type locality for the cystoid *Echinosphaerites granulatus* M'Coy, 1846.

With its diversity and high numbers of specimens the locality provides a key site for correlation between many of the less fossil-rich Duncannon Group localities. It is also suggestive that volcanism in the Duncannon Group ceased after the Longvillian Stage in southeast Ireland.

Site Importance – County Geological Site; recommended for Geological NHA

This is one of the richest mid Ordovician fossil localities in Ireland, providing museum collections of biostratigraphical and taxonomic importance. Despite the poor exposure, it merits recognition and protection as an NHA, to maintain the option of future study, since rock is very close to the surface and can be reached by shallow excavation.

Management/promotion issues

The site is on private farmland and not suitable for general promotion or casual visitors. Any future excavations or ground works in the vicinity by the landowner could benefit palaeontology by providing fresh material to collect and study.



The loose rocks along the wall, in the ground on both sides provided fossils in the 1980s.



Looking north on the locality.



No fossils were found nearer the monument.



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