

KILDARE - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Hill of Allen		
Other names used for site			
TOWNLAND(S)	Barnacrow		
NEAREST TOWN	Kilmeage		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	18		
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	275700 220600 = N 757 206		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	49	1/2 inch Sheet No.	16

Outline Site Description

Large working Quarry

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Upper Ordovician (Caradoc) andesitic lavas (Allen Andesite Formation).

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

This site is situated 6km due north of Newbridge along the R415. The Hill of Allen has been heavily excavated on its northwest face. This excavation has exposed part of the Allen Andesite Formation, a massive andesitic lava, which in places within the quarry is porphyritic. This working quarry has excavated deep within the Hill of Allen, leaving an impressive scar on the landscape as well as producing high, vertical cliffs, which border much of the site.

Site Importance

This site is a rare example of andesitic lavas, which otherwise only occur in the Portrane, Lambay and Balbriggan areas, apart from Grange Hill in the Kildare Inlier.

Management/promotion issues

This is a large working quarry operated by Roadstone and as such is a hazardous environment. Therefore this site should not be promoted without appropriate arrangements being made with Roadstone.



Above: Panorama shot of the quarry from the top of the hill.

Hill of Allen

