

KILDARE - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Glen Ding
Other names used for site	
TOWNLAND(S)	Blessington
NEAREST TOWN	Blessington
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	25
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	296336 215590 = N 963 156
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	56 1/2 inch Sheet No. 16

Outline Site Description

A dry glacial channel

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Quaternary (Pleistocene) glacial till cutting into Silurian greywackes and shale.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

This heavily wooded glacial spillway displays a pronounced curved channel running approximately north south along the R410 road for about 1.5km. The surrounding area is reported to have extensive deltaic deposits. There is little visible outcrop exposure due to the high levels of vegetation and the abundance of glacial sediment. The formation of this glacial spillway is probably due to flowing meltwater from a glacially dammed lake during the Quaternary.

Site Importance

This is one of a range of such glacial spillways abundant in West Wicklow but represents a good example in Kildare and should be listed as a County Geological Site.

Management/promotion issues

The land is privately owned (owner unknown). Much of the site is very steep and heavily wooded making access difficult. Access to the glen itself is along a dangerous stretch of the R410 road, which has a large number of heavy goods vehicles passing by. Not suitable for general promotion without permission from the landowner and a safe access point.



Above: Panoramic view of Glen Ding from the south.
Left: View of Glen Ding from the north.

