

LONGFORD - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Drumlish Quarry		
Other names used for site			
IGH THEME	IGH4 Cambrian-Silurian		
TOWNLAND(S)	Lettergullion, Lettergeeragh		
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Drumlish		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER			
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE			
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	34	GSI Bedrock 1:100,000 Sheet No.	12

Outline Site Description

An intermittently active quarry.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The rock here is greywacke of the Coronea Formation, of Ordovician age.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

This is a good representative site for the Ordovician greywacke rocks comprising the south western end of the Longford-Down inlier. Structurally this is a part of the Northern Belt, the most northerly of three main belts of ocean floor rocks that have been steeply tilted and stacked together on a very large scale. The rocks form part of the story of the closure of the Iapetus Ocean through the Ordovician and Silurian Periods and the joining of the two 'halves' of Ireland.

The greywacke rocks are all sedimentary rocks eroded off the land and deposited in the ocean basin as turbidites (mass flows from shallow to deep water), and hence are mixed compositions of sand and different types of rock fragments, with associated red mudstones and cherts.

Site Importance – County Geological Site

This is a good representative site for rocks that are not well exposed despite being relatively resistant to erosion and underlying some of the higher ground in the county.

Management/promotion issues

The quarry is not operated consistently but used when demand for product requires it. The mixed nature of the rock means that it is mostly used as aggregate for concrete or as hardcore and fill for roadmaking. As a private business premises it is unsuitable for general visits or promotion.



Drumlish Quarry overview.



Left: Drumlish Quarry displays many red mudstone and cherty beds as well as the green coloured greywackes.



Right: The south wall of the quarry displays thin bedded turbiditic greywackes, steeply dipping and folded.



The Drumlish Quarry seen from the roadway to the northwest.

