

LAOIS - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

NAME OF SITE	Luggacurren Fireclay Pit		
Other names used for site			
IGH THEME	IGH9 Upper Carboniferous and Permian		
TOWNLAND(S)	Luggacurren		
NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE	Stradbally		
SIX INCH MAP NUMBER	25		
ITM CO-ORDINATES	658610E 687270N		
1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER	61	GSi BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO.	16

Outline Site Description

A farm borrow-pit.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The site exposes Namurian rocks of part of the Killeshin Siltstone Formation.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Complementing the Luggacurren Stream section, this site is a farm borrow pit in the Killeshin Siltstone Formation, with a good fresh exposure. As the rock is shale, which fractures and decomposes very easily once exposed, natural exposures are almost non-existent, so small pits like this site are a valuable opportunity to see the character of the rock.

The shale is used for farm roads, as fill and occasionally used as a fireclay for mixing into the clay mix for making ceramic chimney liners.

Site Importance – County Geological Site; may be recommended for Geological NHA

This is a small but good representative section of part of the Namurian rocks in the Leinster Coalfield and is a good County Geological Site, whilst it remains in occasional use, and does not become degraded and overgrown.

Management/promotion issues

The site is on private farmland and not suitable for general promotion.



Luggacurren fireclay pit, looking eastward.



The entrance road into Luggacurren fireclay pit.



Luggacurren fireclay pit, looking west.

