

## KILKENNY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	<b>Bennettsbridge Quarry</b>
Other names used for site	Roadstone Kilkenny Quarry
<b>IGH THEME:</b>	IGH8 (Lower Carboniferous)
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	Holdenstown
<b>NEAREST TOWN</b>	Bennettsbridge
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	24
<b>NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE</b>	255597 151504 = S 56 51
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER</b>	67                      1/2 inch Sheet No.                      19

### Outline Site Description

A working quarry.

### Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

Butlersgrove Formation, dolomitized limestones of Lower Carboniferous (Viséan) age.

### Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

Found within a Roadstone quarry, just north of Bennettsbridge are well exposed beds of Lower Carboniferous dolomitic limestone. Dolomite is formed when the calcite (Ca) in the limestone (calcium carbonate -  $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) is replaced by magnesium (Mg) through a process called dolomitization. These rocks can be identified by their pinkish colouration (from the mineral dolomite) and often have appearance like marble.

### Site Importance

The site at Bennettsbridge Quarry is a very good example of dolomitized limestone in the Kilkenny area, worthy of County Geological Site status.

### 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.



Left: Exposed face of dolomitized limestone characterised by its pinkish colouration, with minor landslips observed in the foreground.

Right: Dolomite and calcite crystals seen in the limestone of the Butlersgrove Formation.

# Bennettsbridge Quarry

