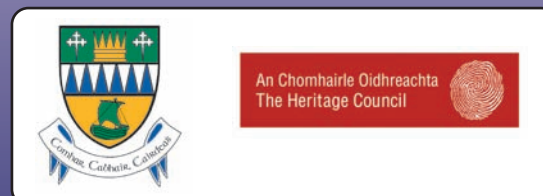


Geolaíocht Chorca Dhuibhne cois bóthair

The Roadside Geology of West Kerry



Bolcáin ag Ceann Sraithe Volcanoes at Clogher Head



Radharc i dtreo Chinn Sraithe, láthair thábhachtach do charraigeacha bolcánacha ar Leithinis Chorca Dhuibhne.

View towards Clogher Head, an important location for volcanic rocks on the Dingle Peninsula.



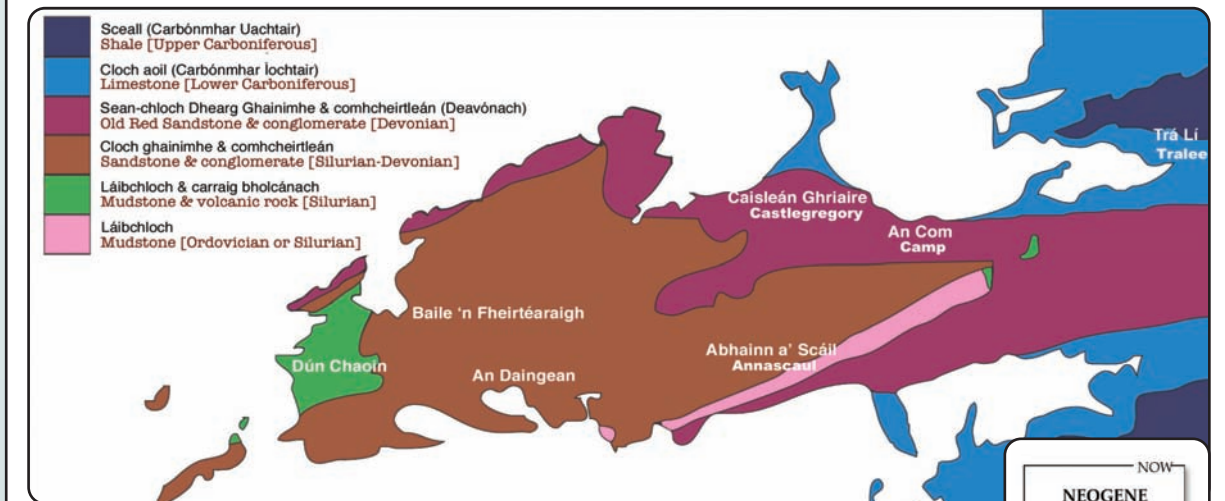
Radharc i dtreo Mhionnán na Gráige leis na creagacha tipiciúla a théann le carraig bholcánach Riallta.

View towards Minnaunmore Rock with typical craggy occurrences of the volcanic rock Rhyolite.

Le linn Thréimhse an Siolúraigh bhí Éire roinnte ina dá chuid ag an Aigeán laipéitís. De réir mar a dhún sé seo de bharr teicteonaice phlátaí, cruthaíodh sraith oileán bolcánach in iarthair na hÉireann. Ar leithinis Chorca Dhuibhne chruthaigh na bolcáin seo luathreach, laibhe riailteach agus sil-leagan píreacastach atá anois áirithe le dríodair imtheacaí iontaise i gcomharsanacht Dhún Chaoin.

During the Silurian period Ireland was divided into two portions separated by the Iapetus Ocean. As this closed on account of plate tectonics, a series of volcanic islands developed in western Ireland. On the Dingle Peninsula these volcanoes produced ash, rhyolitic lavas and pyroclastic deposits which are now found associated with fossil-bearing sediments in the Dunquin district.

Stair na Geolaíochta i gCorca Dhuibhne Geological History of West Kerry



Le linn thréimhse an Ordaivísigh agus thréimhse an tSiolúraigh, is laistean de mheánchiorcal an domhain a bhí Éire, faoin bhfarraige idir dhá mhór-roinn. Bhí pluda agus gaineamh á leagadh síos ann, gur deineadh díobh na carraigeacha atá le feiscint anois gairid d'Abhainn an Scáil. Le linn an tSiolúraigh, bhí bolcáin ag pléascadh leis an laibhe agus leis an luathreach atá le fáil inniu ag Ceann Sraithe. Théadh ainmhithe i ngreim i ndríodar láibhe agus tá siad le feiscint inniu ann mar iontaisithe nó fosailí gairid do Dhún Chaoin agus ar Chnoc Chathair Chonraoi. Dríodar gainimhe a leagadh síos ina dhiaidh sin a chruthaigh na clocha gainimhe i n-aice leis an nDaingean agus ag Ceann Sléibhe.

Faoi thréimhse an Deavónaigh, bhí an fharraige dúnta ar fad, rud a chruthaigh mór-roinn mhór talún le fásaigh ann. Deineadh Sean-chloch Dhearg Ghainimhe den ngaineamh, mar atá i ndrom Shliabh Mis, agus den ndríodar garbh, deineadh na carraigeacha ar a dtugtar comhcheirtleán, atá le feiscint inniu ag Loch Slat agus ag Inse.

Ag tús an thréimhse Carbónmhar, bhí an talamh faoi bhun farraige tanaí trópaiceach agus bhí an coiréal agus an t-iasc sliogánach ag maireachtaint go ráthmhar ann. Tá a rian súd caomhnaithe sna clocha aoil sna Machairí.

Le dhá mhíliúin bliain anuas go dtí deich míle bliain ó shin, bhíodh comanna á gcruthú ar thaobh na gcnoc ag an oighear; is minic a bhíonn locha iontu inniu. Ritheadh sruth an oighir le fánaidh trí na gleannta, agus de réir mar a leá sé, leagadh síos cré na mbollán le mórán saghsanna cloch tríd.

During the Ordovician and Silurian Ireland was south of the equator and under an ocean between two continents. Mud and sand deposited into it eventually became the rocks seen near Annascaul. In the Silurian, volcanic islands erupted lavas and ash now found at Clogher Head. Muddy sediments trapped animals today preserved as fossils near Dún Chaoin and on Caherconree Mountain. Younger, sandy sediments produced the sandstones near An Daingean and Sleah Head.

By the Devonian, the ocean had disappeared, forming a large continent with deserts. The sand formed Old Red Sandstone, the backbone of the Slieve Mish Mountains, while coarser sediments produced rocks called conglomerates, seen now at Lough Slat and at Inch.

At the beginning of the Carboniferous period the land was flooded by shallow tropical seas where shellfish and corals thrived. These are preserved in the limestones on the Magharees.

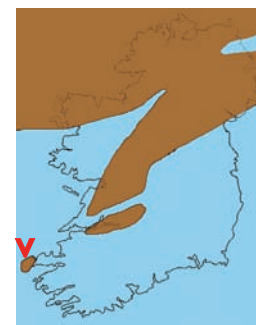
During the last 2 million years to 10,000 years ago, ice on mountainsides formed depressions called corries, many of which now contain lakes. Glaciers moved downslope along river valleys, and when they melted boulder clay containing many different rock types was deposited.

Ceann Sibéal (ar chlé), Ceann Sraithe agus Mionnán na Gráige (sa lár) agus Dún Chaoin (ar dheis) de réir radhairc ón mBlascaod Mór: Greanadh adhmaid ón 19ú céad ag George Victor Du Noyer, geolaí le Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann (le cead Shuirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann).



Mar a bhí an talamh agus an t-aigéan le linn Thréimhse an tSiolúraigh.

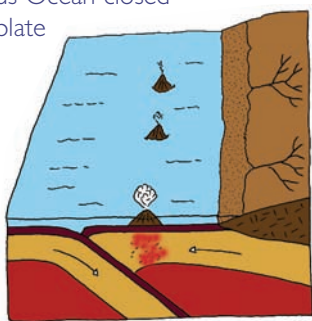
The position of land and ocean during the Silurian.



Volcanic activity Ocean Land

De réir mar a dhúnadh an tAigéan laipéitís brúdh an pláta aigéanach faoin bpláta ilchríochach. Cruthaíodh oileáin bolcánacha mar thor ar an leatán.

As the Iapetus Ocean closed the oceanic plate was pushed beneath the continent plate. Melting produced a chain of volcanic islands.



CARRAIGEACHA ANDÚCHASACH AG DÚN AN ÓIR

Tá Dún an Óir 5 km siar ó thuaidh do Cheann Sraithe. Sa bhliain 1578 chuir an teascálaí Martin Frobisher aon long déag abhaile agus iad lódáilte le mianta óir a bailíodh ar Oileán Baffin i gCeanada an lae inniu. Chuaigh long amháin le 110 tonna i dtalamh i gCuan Ard na Caithne. Tháinig sé chun solais go luath nach raibh aon ór sa chloch agus baineadh úsáid as cuid mhaith de chun dún a thógaint. Trí bliana ina dhiaidh sin, b'é Dún an Óir láthair shléachta na Spáinneach agus na nGael. Uaireanta bíonn mianta Frobisher ar fáil ar thránna Chuan Ard na Caithne. Is bruthcharraig dorcha í.



Dún an Óir



EXOTIC ROCKS AT DÚN-AN-OIR

5 km north-west of Clogher Head is Dún-an-Oir. In 1578 the explorer Martin Frobisher sent eleven ships home laden with gold ore collected from Baffin Island in what is now Canada. One ship containing 110 tonnes ran aground at Smerwick Harbour. Soon it was discovered that the stone in fact contained no gold, and much of it was used to construct a fort. Three years later Dún-an-Oir was the site of a massacre of Spanish and Irish. Occasionally pieces of Frobisher's ore can be found on beaches at Smerwick Harbour. It is a dark igneous rock.



Frobisher ore