SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: OLD RECTORY, FAHAN

SITE CODE: 002056

This is a nursery roost for Leisler's Bat (*Nyctalus leisleri*) which roost along the gable end of the attic in a privately owned old dwelling house at Fahan, County Donegal. Approximately 250 bats were recorded at the house in 1992. However, the bats deserted the roof space during 1993 when the house was reroofed, despite the owners and builder taking precautions to minimise disturbance. It is probable that this colony will re-establish itself in 1994. This is one of the largest Leisler's Bat nursery colonies in Ireland and is a site of international importance.

The present owners are well disposed towards the bats, which is an important consideration when trying to protect roosts of this species, the largest and possibly the noisiest of the seven bat species. Although the Leisler's Bat is considered common in Ireland, the numbers of safe nursery roosts are small.

8.12.2009