LONGFORD

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

An Foras
Forbartha
Teoranta
**The National
Institute
for Physical
Planning and
Construction
Research**

CONSERVATION AND AMENITY ADVISORY SERVICE

REPORT ON AREAS OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST IN COUNTY LONGFORD

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Very little information exists for County Longford. It is hoped that this report of scientific interest will provide a basis and guideline for further research. The field data was collected during three visits, one in September 1971 and two in the Spring of 1972. Existing records in the An Foras Forbartha files were consulted and additional literature sources are listed.

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The 'No Shooting' Order, so called in this text, is part of the Game Birds Protection Order 1971. (S.I. No. 195 of 1971).

SECTION A

PREFACE

This report concerns country-planning. It should enable the county council to pick out those areas that are important on a national or local level and whose conservation can be based on strong scientific or educational grounds. The Conservation Advisory Service is attempting to identify a representative range of natural or semi-natural habitats throughout Ireland and also to list sites of special significance, usually containing a rare species or a rare natural phenomenon. Around these areas, development can proceed with relative impunity, once waste-disposal problems have been surmounted. It may be stressed that the amount of land available is such that development will very seldom mean the impoverishment of the national heritage, if it is properly planned.

However, it is true that scenically attractive areas which appeal because of the combination of hills, woodland and water, may introduce conflicts. They are naturally sought after by housing or recreation interests but, at the same time, they often contain communities of plants and animals, interesting because of their isolation from rural or urban development. To compromise between the opposing forces is always difficult, but it may be pointed out that large trees and especially the woodland community is an irreplaceable feature of the landscape on a timescale of 10-20 years.

Conservation of natural communities may be important for amenity, scientific or educational reasons, or any combination of the three. Frequently the natural vegetation of an area gives to it a characteristic atmosphere, an indefinable value, but very real to those that walk or drive through it. Diversity is the key quality of the environment that attracts people to an area or that makes them find relaxation there; the contrast between cultivation and wilderness, between water and land or between trees and grass. Fortunately, diversity is also the sine qua non of rich biological communities.

Examples of all habitats must be preserved for scientific research. Uncultivated areas are essential as reservoirs for organisms that may be useful for soil conditioning or pest control in the future. Quite apart from their inherent interest and complexity they are needed also as control areas. Without them it would be impossible to judge the effectiveness of, or to improve man's attempts at land management. For example, how can pollution be controlled if no unpolluted watercourse or lake remains in which to decipher the natural breakdown processes? Or how can the great productivity of marshes and seasonally flooded land be harnessed, other than by rice growing, if no natural swamps are left? Finally, how can cutover bog be best used for growing if no natural self-sustaining bog community or no wooded peaty areas exist? These questions are of growing importance in a competitive world that demands efficiency and an optimum level of food production compatible with little damage to the ecosystem.

In education, field studies of all sorts are of immense value, and biological field studies are a stimulus that many other disciplines envy. Natural communities provide some of the clearest expositions of the ecological principles that operate through all growing and harvesting methods. In addition, there is the challenge of identifying and getting acquainted with numerous and very different species. Field work attracts practically all children at some stage and enables everyone to better appreciate being in rural surroundings. Already, since the introduction of biology teaching, there is greater awareness of the environment and interest in wildlife. Such constructive recreation should be encouraged by the maintenance of variety in the countryside.

It is the intention of this survey to encourage the use of the countryside by drawing attention to scientifically interesting places. All of those mentioned can support much greater numbers of people - less so in certain cases of marshes and bogs, or at certain times of the year. But the carrying-capacity of each site will eventually have to be analysed. How much recreational use can co-exist with a nesting wildfowl population? How many people can walk a woodland floor without damaging the plant cover? Or what number of trees can be felled each year while preserving the attractive features of the wood? The idea of preserving any but the smallest areas intact and without change is unrealistic and multiple use should be encouraged. Many of the areas would respond to sound management and become much more productive.

The majority of the sites listed are now productive in the crude sense of producing fish, game birds or timber. All are productive if they encourage people to visit the area and make use of services nearby, and we believe that all contribute to the relaxation, mental health and happiness of the community, especially the generation of town-dwellers that now form most of our nation.

SECTION B.

Vulnerability of Habitats.

Areas of scientific interest can be damaged in many ways. They can be completely destroyed by scrub or tree clearance, by turf cutting or by arterial drainage or they can suffer insidiously through pollution; fertilization, grazing or overuse for recreation.

The first of these poses the greatest threat because of the rapidity with which it can occur. A survey in 1618 gives the total amount of profitable timber in Longford as 8400 acres, with 12500 acres of unprofitable wood and bog. Today very little natural woodland exists in the county. Some of the few oaks and hazel woods which remain are described in the report and it is hoped that steps will be taken to preserve them.

Turf cutting and exploitation of the bogland in Longford is a major problem owing to the widespread activities of Bord na Mona. Milled peat is the chief product from Derryad, Corlea, Knappogue and Cloonbony Bogs, while sod-peat is cut from Derryaroge, Derraghan and Mountdillon. Cloondara or Begnagh Bog is scheduled for milled peat extraction. This area is a particularly good example of a bog with 'pool and hummock complexes'. It seems unlikely that the area can be conserved, but it is hoped that at least one area of bog in the county will be saved.

It seems common practice to burn bogland vegetation in early Spring in the county. While this does not have any permanent effect on the communities it does alter the natural species composition of the bogland and it can therefore be considered undesirable.

Arterial drainage schemes have already affected much of the Inny River basin and destroyed some of the wetter habitats found along its length. The marshland at the mouth of the Inny on Lough Ree was a roosting ground for winter geese, but they no longer come in their flocks. Lough Ree itself is affected by the intake of the Ardnacrusha power station, far down the Shannon system. A drop in water level of 12 feet has been recorded recently at Athlone Weir. The lough is shallow and although a change in level of 12 feet has not been recorded for this vast area of water, changes have occurred which affect the various plant and animal communities around its margin.

Several turloughs are located a mile or so inland from the Lough Ree shoreline. These are interesting ecologically in their own right and act as refuge areas for many birds. A lowering of the Lough Ree water levels and drainage of the surrounding pasture land may mean the loss of this kind of habitat.

Perhaps the most imminent threat to Lough Ree however is that of increasing recreational activities and careful planning for the various demands of holiday chalets, picnic sites and harbours is needed now.

The midland counties in Ireland have numerous items of geomorphological interest - eskers and knoll-reefs, being but two forms which can be seen in Co. Longford. The fine quality sand and gravel of the esker ridges is frequently used by local builders as is the limestone of the knoll-reefs. There are still several examples of the two forms, but if they are to remain as illustrations of landscape formation, quarrying should be restricted.

Nearby Lough Sheelin serves as a very pungent reminder of the problems of pollution. As yet there does not appear to be much water pollution within the county, but constant monitoring of the situation is essential.

SECTION C.

General Introduction

Longford is one of the smaller Midland counties, having an area of 258,000 acres. But despite its geographical limitations, it has its share of different ecological habitats.

In 1445 the kingdom of Annaly, which corresponds roughly to the county of today, was divided into two sections - Upper and Lower Annaly - their respective seats being at Granard and Longford. On looking at the geological map one can see that this was probably based on the physical nature of the terrain : the higher, northern part consisting of Silurian and Ordovician slates and grits, bounded by Lower Avonian Shales and Sandstones, and the flatter southern part being almost entirely Lower Carboniferous Limestone.

Granard itself is interesting as the boundary of the Avonian and Silurian rocks circles the town, and not far to the north is a fault line between the Carboniferous and Silurian beds.

Throughout the flattish, southern area are numerous small mounds, some eskers consisting of fine grained material left behind after the advancing glacier front, and others knoll-reefs or reef-banks. These reefs can be seen to contain numerous fossil corals and shellfish, indicating that even this far inland part of Ireland was one time covered by a sea.

Two small intrusions of Old Red Sandstone occur at Ardagh Hill and immediately south of Longford town.

One of the most noticeable features when wandering through the county is the abundance of hedgerows, separating the many small fields. From a distance it appears that much of the area is wooded, but on closer inspection relatively few large natural woodlands are to be found. The ecological significance of the hedgerows should not be overlooked, for they provide habitats for many plant and animal species.

One of the more important habitats within the county is the fresh-water lakes. The four major ones - L. Ree, L. Gowna, L. Forbes and L. Kinale are all split by county boundaries but the greater area, in each case, comes within the Longford boundary. All are wildfowl areas, but L. Ree and L. Forbes on the Shannon system are the more interesting from the ornithologist's point of view.

There are many smaller loughs to be found, each one different from the other. Near the western boundary are several turloughs on the limestone strip and further inland are loughs surrounded by calcareous peat providing interesting ecological contrasts within a few yards of each other. Along the northern boundary are a series of upland acid loughs, none of particular interest apart from Lough Naback which holds a stock of Char. Yet other loughs within the bogland are colonized by reeds and encircled by damp meadowland and provide much ornithological interest.

The county is drained by the Inny River in the south and the Camlin River to the north of Longford town. The Royal Canal runs from Longford to Abbeyshrule and onto Mullingar in Westmeath, but it has not been used as a means of transportation for many years and is reeded up in most stretches.

Although there are about 25,000 acres of raised bog in Longford, 10,000 acres of these are in the ownership of Bord na Mona, and for the most part have been already excavated. A map of the bogland is included in this report, showing those to be exploited and those which, at the present time, remain unaffected.

The upland area provides very little of scientific interest - even the peatlands are reduced to small patches - but Ardagh Hill at 659 ft. and Corn Hill at 916 feet give excellent all round views across the flat expanse of the Midland Plain on a clear day.

REFERENCES:

FARRELL	J.P.	1891	History of the Co. Longford Dublin
McCRACKEN	E.	1971	The Irish Woods since Tudor times. David & Charles, Newton Abbot.
NEVILL	W.E.	1958	The carboniferous knoll-reefs of East-Central Ireland. Proc. R.I.A. 59 Sect. B. 285 - 300
PRAEGER	R.L.	1969 (reprinted)	The Way That I Went. Allen Figgis Ltd., Dublin.
WESTERMANN	J.H.	1971	Report on a visit to some of Eire's nature areas (May-June 1971) and considerations on the establishing of Nature Reserves and National Parks. Netherlands Commission for International Nature Protection.

SECTION D

RATING OF AREAS OF SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE

This is a measure of the relative importance of areas of scientific importance.

The importance of each area is indicated in terms of the following categories:

International Importance

1. Only area of its type in Europe.
2. One of a few such localities in Europe.
3. One of a natural series in Europe.
4. Recognised international importance.
5. Specialised educational importance.

National Importance

1. Only area of its type in Ireland.
2. One of a few such localities in Ireland.
3. One of a natural series in Ireland.
4. Recognised national importance.
5. General or specialised educational importance.

Regional Importance

1. Only area of its type in province.
2. One of a few localities in Ireland.
3. One of a natural series in region.
4. Fine example of its kind.
5. General or specialised educational importance.

Local Importance

1. Only area of its type in county.
2. One of a few localities in province.
3. Fine example of its kind.
4. General educational importance.

PRIORITY OF AREAS OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

This is a measure of the relative urgency necessary for protection of the areas of scientific importance.

Each site is given a priority rating of A, B or C.

The rating of any area is based on a combination of the following criteria:-

a) the importance of the area
b) the vulnerability of the area
c) the nature and imminence of any threats to the area.

SECTION E.

Area	Map No.	Grid Reference	Rating	Priority	Interest
1. Carrickboy Quarry	1	N.. 207. 647	National	B	Ecological Geomorphological Carboniferous knoll-reef.
2. Lough Ree	2 & 3	N. 005. 695 to N. 107. 553	Regional	B	Ecological Botanical Ornithological Limestone flora scrub and woodland, wildfowl area.
3. Lough Forbes 2[illegible]	4	N. 085. 815	Regional	B	Ecological Ornithological Reeded lough, wooded shore
4. Cloondara or Begnagh Bog 24	5	N. 075. 740	Local	A	Ecological Botanical Raised bog with pool and hummock complexes.
5. Cloonshinnagh Bog 25	6	N. 300.745	Local	B	Ecological Botanical

	Area	Map No.	Grid Reference	Rating	Priority	Interest
6.	Mount Jessop and Derrymore Bogs	7 & 8	N. 125. 700	Local	B	Ecological Botanical
7.	Lough Bawn	9	N. 103. 640	Local	B	Ecological Botanical Reeded lough surrounded raised bog.
8.	Reef Bank at Longford Dump	10	N. 176. 759	Local	C	Geomorphological Ecological Carboniferous reef-bank.
9.	Derry Lough	11	N. 096. 600	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Ornithological Calcareous peat
10.	Derrymacar Lough	12	N. 085. 580	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Ornithological Limestone lough with raised bog and marsh

	Area	Map No.	Grid Reference	Rating	Priority	Interest
11.	Scots Pine woodland at Portamure Lodge	13	N. 035. 048	Local	C	Botanical Scots Pine wood
12.	Culnagore Wood	14	N. 025. 585	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Hazel Wood
13.	Meadow near Lough Slawn	14	N. 033. 576	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Calcicole/Calcifuge species
14.	Lough Slawn 35	14	N. 032. 587	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Calcicole/Calcifuge species
15.	Turlough near Cordara House 37	15	N. 030.640	Local	C	Ecological Ornithological
16.	Turlough near Fortwilliam	15	N. 016. 632	Local	C	Ecological Ornithological

	Area	Map No.	Grid Reference	Rating	Priority	Interest
17.	Lough Kinale 39	16 P.39	N. 382. 807	Local	C	Ornithological
18.	Derragh Lough 41	16	N. 398. 794	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Raised bog, marshes
19.	Rathcline Castle and nearby woodlands 42	17	N. 003. 670	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Archaeological Oak woodlands
20.	Lough Bannow 43	18	N. 030. 690	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Ornithological Small lough, surrounde by reeds with raised bo and marshland
21.	Knoll-reef near Newtown House 45	19	N. 266. 635	Local	C	Ecological Geomorphological Carboniferous knoll-ree

	Area	Map No.	Grid Reference	Rating	Priority	Interest
22.	Knoll-reef near Ferskill House 13	20	N. 312. 790	Local	C	Ecological Geomorphological Carboniferous knoll-reef
23.	Small quarry at Killor Church 12	21	N. 197. 780	Local	C	Geomorphological
24.	Carrigglas Demesne 1	10	N. 175. 768	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Oak Woods
25.	Royal Canal 17	-	N. 234. 598 N. 123. 637 N. 168.585	Local	C	Ecological
26.	River Shannon at Lanesborough 5)	22	N. 006. 695	Local	C	Ecological Zoological Hot water effluent from Power Station.

	Area	Map No.	Grid Reference	Rating	Priority	Interest
27.	Castle Forbes Demesne	23	N. 091. 892	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Archaeological Mixed woodlands, 19th cent. castle
28.	Lough Naback	24	N. 240. 947	Local	C	Ecological Zoological Upland acid lake with char
29.	Erne Head	25	N. 280. 871	Local	C	Ecological Botanical Oak woodland

SECTION F.

Name of Area	CARRICKBOY QUARRY
Acreage	29·2
Grid Reference	N. 207, 647
Scientific interest	Geomorphological, ecological
Rating 1	National
Priority	B

Description of the Site

Also known as "Thompson's locality" this is a quarry in a large knoll at Carrickboy village. The reef rock is obscurely bedded, dark, polyzoan calcite mudstone which dips at 40° and is seen to be overstepped by thin bedded dark limestone (some crinoid rich) and shales, whose dip is 15° in the same direction. Above these "cover beds" there is a second development of polyzoan calcite mudstone dipping at 10° and having an overlapping relationship to the "cover beds". Fossils are relatively abundant and include species of *Conocardium* in some supply. The type specimen of McCoy's *Conocardium inflatum* came from here.

There is a small marsh at the base of the rock exposure which is not botanically uninteresting. Several of the aquatic mosses are coated with Calcium carbonate showing the highly alkaline nature of the area. Thousands of tadpoles were found in a small pond.

The quarry is visited by numerous University field courses and research is also being carried out on this particular reef.

The surrounding grassland is grazed by sheep, cattle and rabbits.

Threats to the Area

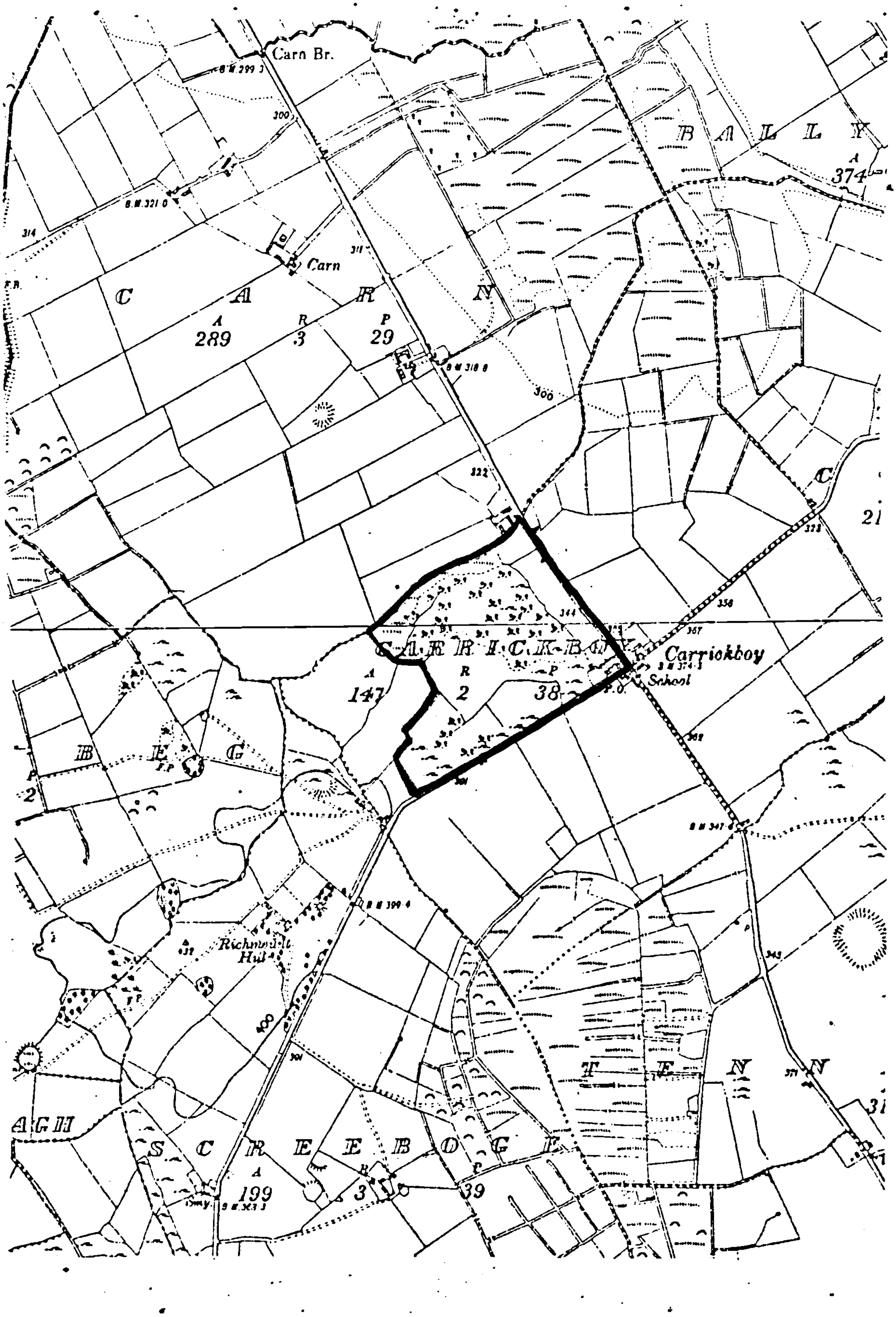
Intermittent quarrying.

Recommendations

Because of the educational and geomorphological value of the site, it is recommended that further quarrying be prevented. The area should be designed as a site of particular interest and be protected as such.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 1

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	LOUGH REE
Acreage	
Grid Reference	N. 005, 695 to N. 107, 553
Scientific Interest	Ecological, botanical, ornithological
Rating	Regional
Priority	B

Description of Area

The limestone shores of Lough Ree provide much of botanical interest whilst the woodland and scrub fringing the boulders and narrow strip of grassland provide nesting sites for many birds. The scrubland is one of the most important sites for the Garden Warbler in Ireland and populations of the uncommon Blackcap also breed here. The vast area of open water and numerous islands and bays add to the importance of the lough as a wildfowl refuge. Flocks of Tufted Duck can be seen at any point around the shoreline in the Spring, whilst occasional winter visitors include four species of goose and Whooper and Bewick Swans.

It is impossible to describe the entire length of shoreline in County Longford which stretches from near Ballymahon to Lanesborough, as it is to provide descriptions of the numerous islands. Several of the shoreline areas are described more fully elsewhere and it is hoped that a future visit to the islands will provide more information.

One of the parts of shoreline which can be considered representative of the limestone vegetation to be found around the lough is between Derrynagalliah and the mouth of the Inny River.

There are 3 main vegetational zones:

(a) semi-aquatic

(b) boulders

(c) grassland.

The first zone often inundated with the rise in water levels has very few species - Polygonum persicaria, Ranunculus flammula, Stellaria alsine and Phragmites communis.

The limestone boulders have Crepis capillaris, Achillea ptarmica, Atriplex patula, Eupatorium cannabinum, Mentha aquatica and Filipendula vulgaris as the main species.

The short grassland is very diverse and has some uncommon species in the community. The main grasses are Agrostis stolonifera, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Briza media and Festuca rubra.

In the previous County Development Plan several sites along the shoreline were investigated with a view to selecting suitable locations for potential amenity schemes. These were:-

Derrynabuntle
Drumnee to Saint's Island
Pollagh East
Pollagh West
Collum - Barley Harbour - Leveraun
Derrydara
Elfeet
Cashel
Cullentra
Ballinahinch
Fermoyle
Blenavoher
Rathcline
Lanesborough

Out of these, the areas suggested for further consideration were:-

Lanesborough
Elfeet
Derrydara
Saint's Island
Derrynagalliagh.

These also happen to be the more interesting scientifically, but with careful planning, there is no reason why the sites should not be amenity areas and at the same time preserve their ecological value.

Threats to the Area

Cruising and sailing should be restricted in the duck breeding season to prevent disturbing the birds.

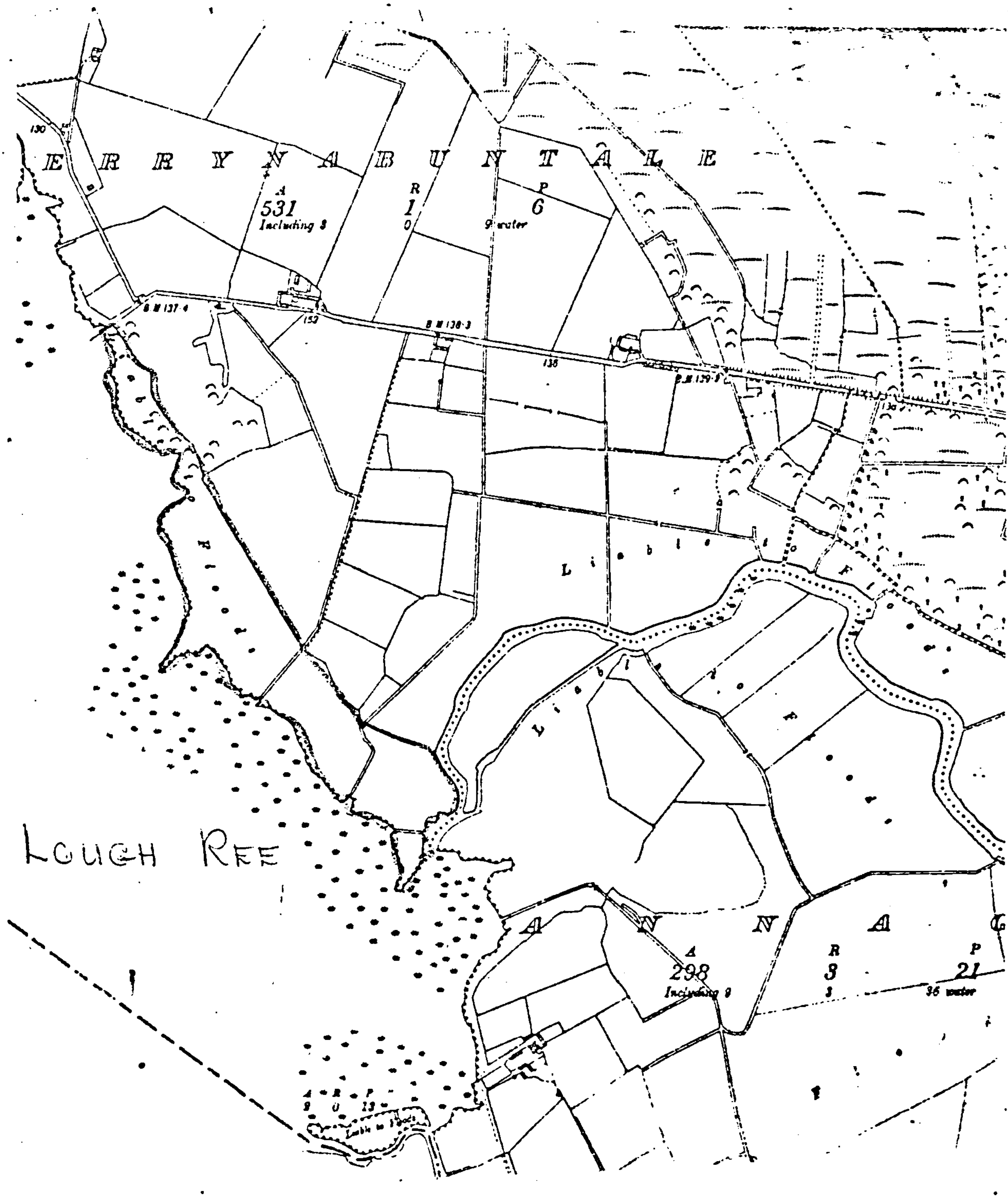
The development of the shoreline and the building of numerous holiday chalets would disrupt many of the areas of scrub and quiet bays in which many of the birds roost.

Recommendations

Careful planning control is needed for the whole shoreline. Destruction of scrub and woodlands should be prevented and cruising in Spring restricted.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 3

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	LOUGH FORBES
Acreage	1000
Grid Reference	N. 085, 815
Scientific Interest	Ornithological, botanical, ecological
Rating	Regional
Priority	B

Description of Site

A large lake on the Shannon system with the Roscommon/Longford boundary running through it. The grass shore of the lake is not botanically interesting but the woodlands, mainly in the Castle Forbes estate, are worth conserving.

Along the Roscommon shore are numerous reed beds (Phragmites communis) which provide nesting habitats for many birds. The lough is graded as 'A' on the list of wildfowl wetlands of importance. During the visit in March, few duck were seen - mainly Tufted Duck and Mute Swans. But in winter it holds large numbers of swans and White-fronted Geese. An aerial survey by Dr. D. Cabot in 1967 lists 26 White-fronts and 42 wild swans on the lough.

Threats to the Area

Numerous cruisers pass through the lough from Lough Ree and Lough Key, but the navigation channel is fairly restricted owing to the reed growth and so only part of the lough is disturbed.

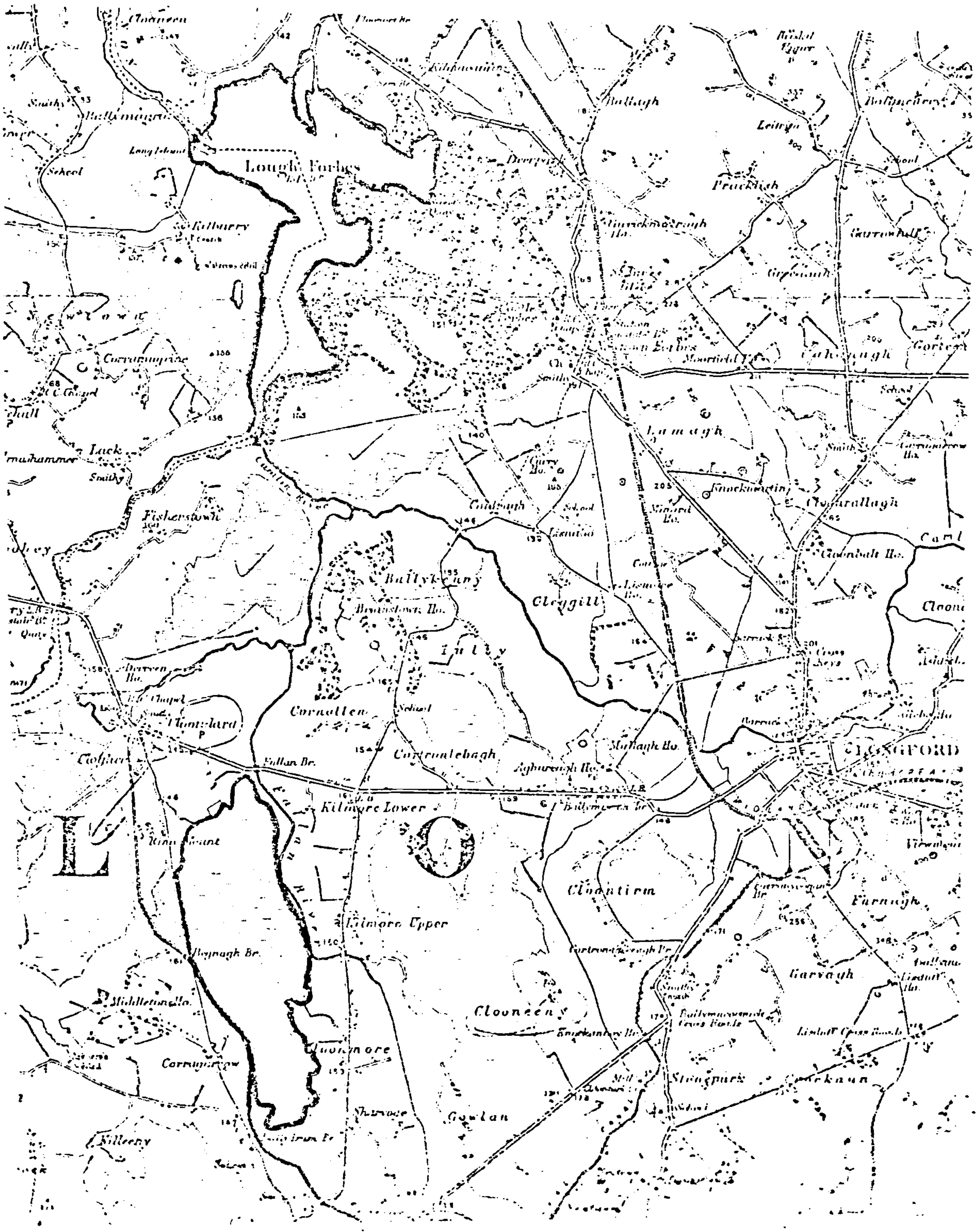
Recommendations

Cruising in the breeding season should be prevented. Clearance of the reed growth would deplete the sheltered nesting areas and should be avoided except in the main navigation channels.

The site is listed as a wildfowl refuge and as such has a 'No Shooting' Order which should be enforced. The surrounding woodlands should be protected also.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 4

Scale: 1 Inch to 1 Mile



Name of Area	CLOONDARA BOG
Acreage	
Grid Reference	N. 075, 740
Scientific Interest	Botanical, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	A

Description of Area

Many of the raised bogs in County Longford have been exploited by Bord na Mona and it is the smaller inaccessible areas which still remain. This area is one of the larger expanses, and is situated between two of the minor roads leading from Killashee to Cloondara. Even so, there are drainage channels cut across the bog and there are plans to exploit the bog in the future.

The following species were recorded:-
Andromeda polifolia, Empetrum nigrum, Trichophorum caespitosum, Eriophorum angustifolium, Calluna vulgaris, Erica tetralix, Narthecium ossifragum, Molinia caerulea; the mosses Hypnum cupressiforme, Sphagnum acutifolium var. rubellum, Sphagnum palustre, Rhacomitrichum sp., Polytrichum juniperinum, Auloconium palustre and the lichen Cladonia impexa.

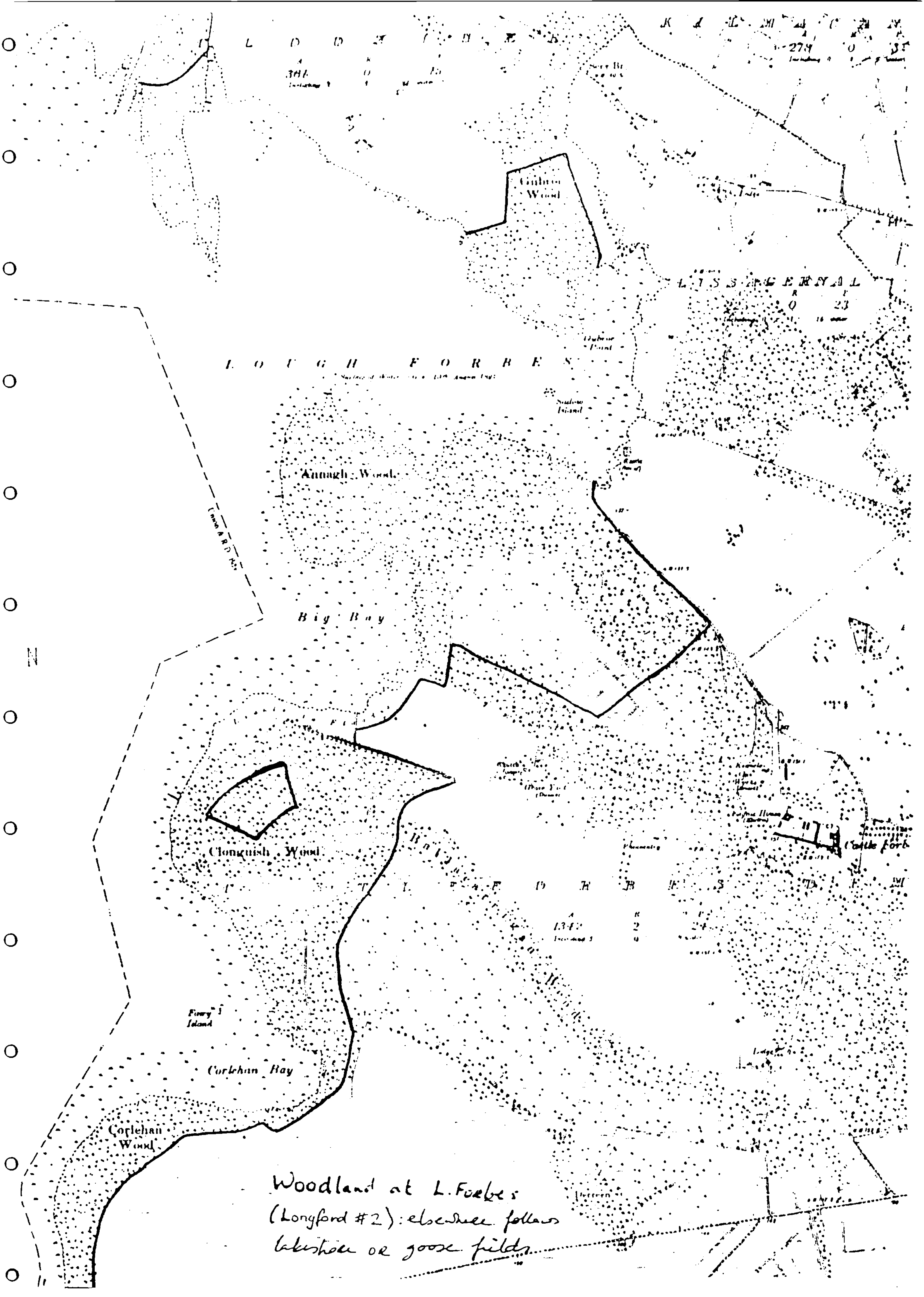
Three species were more abundant in the association than usual - Hypnum cupressiforme, Empetrum nigrum and Andromeda polifolia.

Threats to the Area

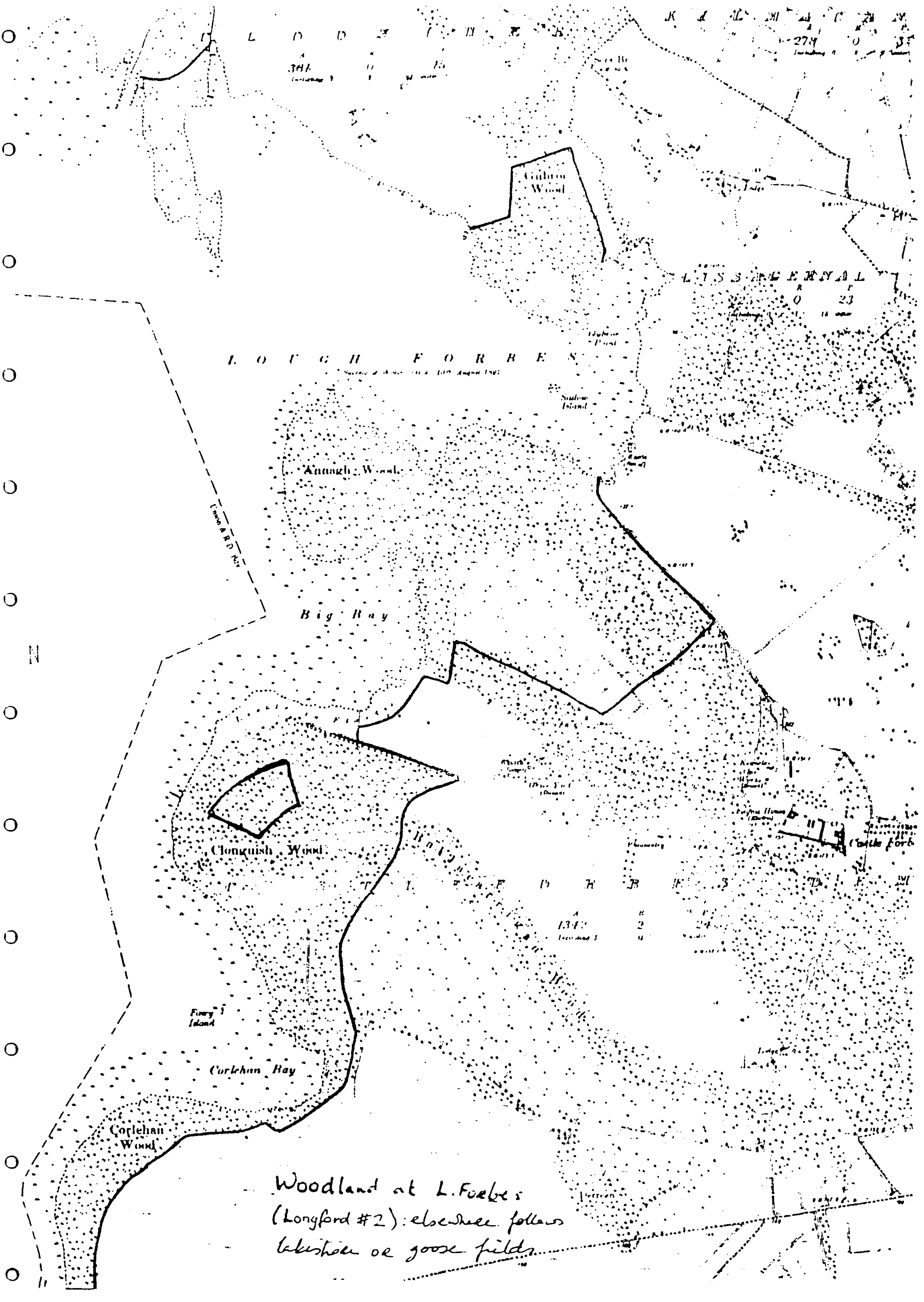
It is to be exploited by Bord na Mona in the future.

Recommendations

At least one area of raised bogland in the county should be conserved in order to provide an ecological example of this type of vegetation. A Dutch botanist, J. Klein, visited this area in 1970 and described this as being



Woodland at L. Forbes
(Longford #2): elsewhere follows
lakeshore or goose fields



Woodland at L. Forbes
(Longford #2): elsewhere follows
lakeshore or goose fields

a bog with well-developed pool and hummock complexes. He requested that Bord na Mona renounce its right of the working area in order that it may be given reserve status. On the strength of these observations it is recommended that a Conservation Order be drawn up for Cloondara Bog.

Reference

J. H. Westermann 1971 Report on a visit to some of Eire's nature areas (May-June, 1971) and considerations of the establishing of Nature reserves and National parks.

Netherlands Commission for International Nature Protection.

Name of Area	CLOONSHINNAGH BOG
Acreage	897
Grid Reference	N. 300, 745
Scientific interest	Botanical, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	B

Description of Site

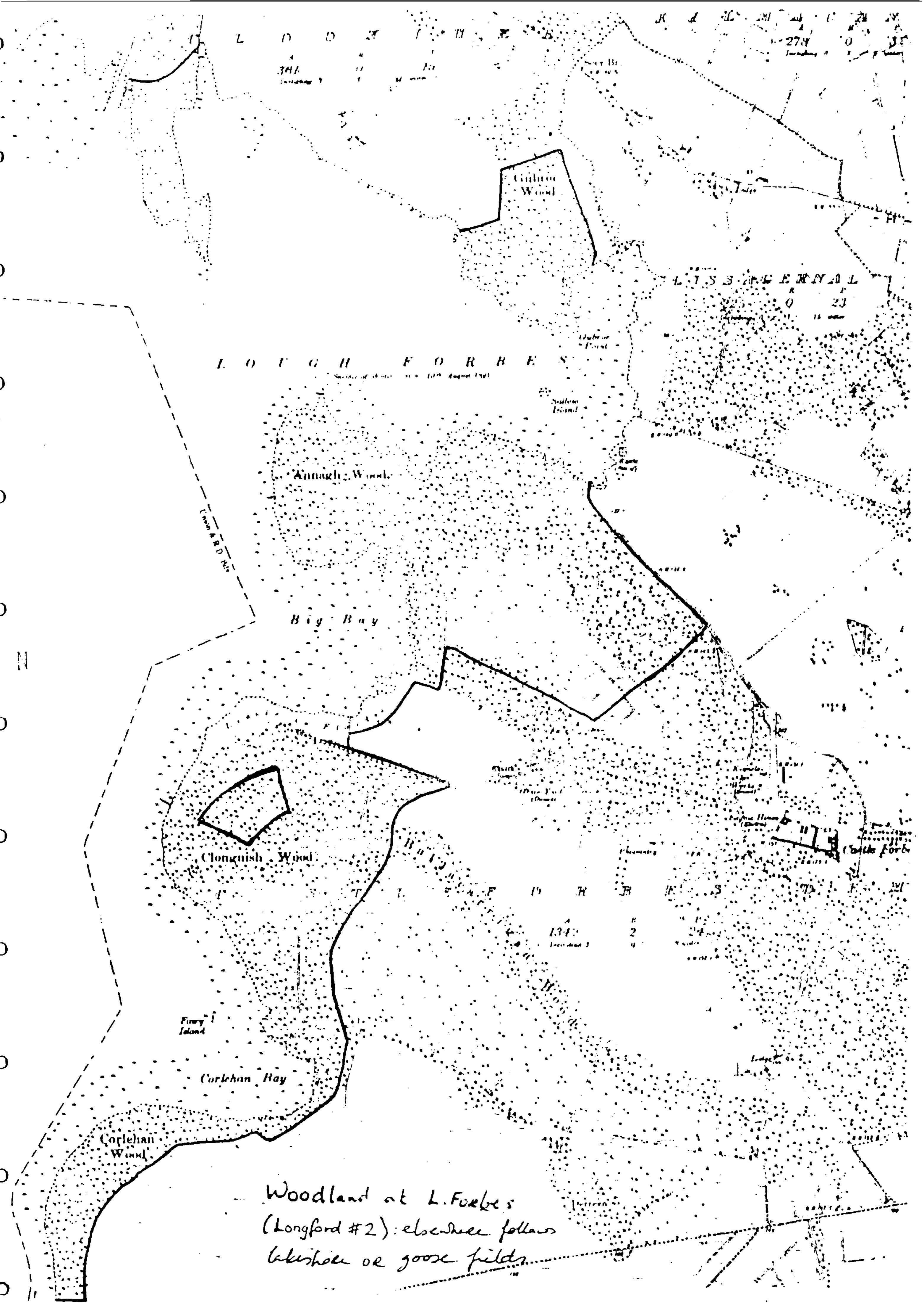
This bog is very similar to the Mount Jessop area in that the central position is covered by relatively short vegetation, approximately 12" high. The lichen, Cladonia impexa is abundant and there is very little Sphagnum moss. Erica tetalix, Calluna vulcaris and Trichophorum caespitosum are the dominant species. This area is probably burnt at regular intervals. There is a forestry plantation to the south and east.

Threats to the Area

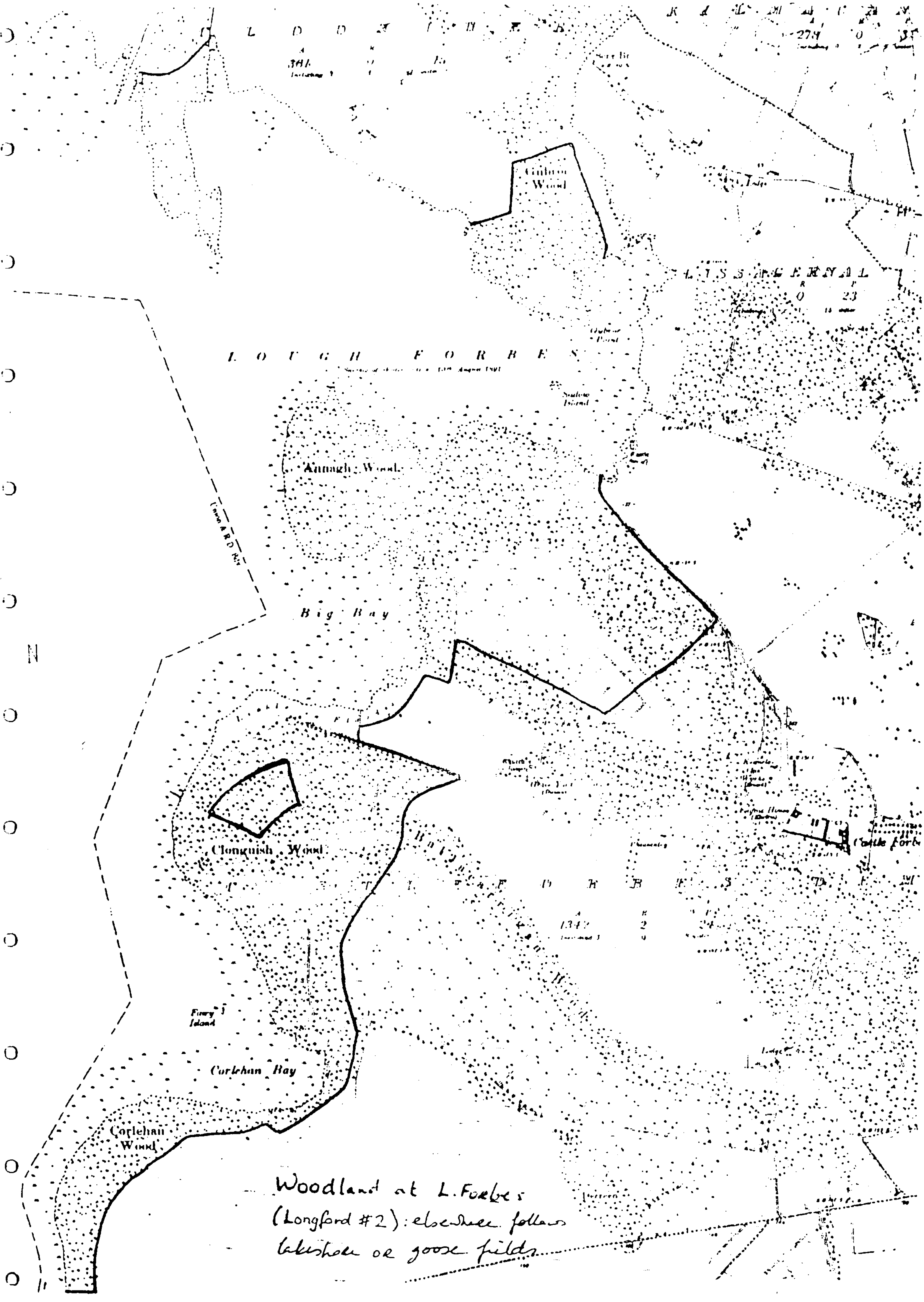
Burning itself does not present a great hazard as it prevents the domination of Calluna vulgaris and hence allows the less robust species to remain in the association, but frequent burning would destroy much of the vegetation. Bord Na Mona may have future plans for the bog, but there is no action at the present time. Nothing is know about the plans of the Forestry Department either, but afforestation of the whole bog should be prevented.

Recommendations

That the area should be preserved as one of the few areas of bogland in the country.



Woodland at L. Forbes (Longford #2): elsewhere follows lakeshore or goose fields



Woodland at L. Forbes
(Longford #2): elsewhere follows
lakeshore or goose fields

Name of Area	MOUNT JESSOP AND DERRYMORE BOGS
Acreage	761·2
Grid Reference	N. 125, 700
Scientific interest	Botanical, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	B

Description of Area

Mount Jessop Bog and the area of bogland to the east have not been exploited by Bord Na Mona. The vegetation is very short, about 6 inches high with lichens covering a large percentage. This indicates that the bog is burnt fairly frequently, probably annually. The eastern part was being burnt at the time of the visit; Mount Jessop Bog had previously been burnt around the edges, but it must have been at the beginning of the year as Andromeda poliofolia (Bog Andromeda) was in full flower and had obviously not been damaged by the burning.

Threats to the Area

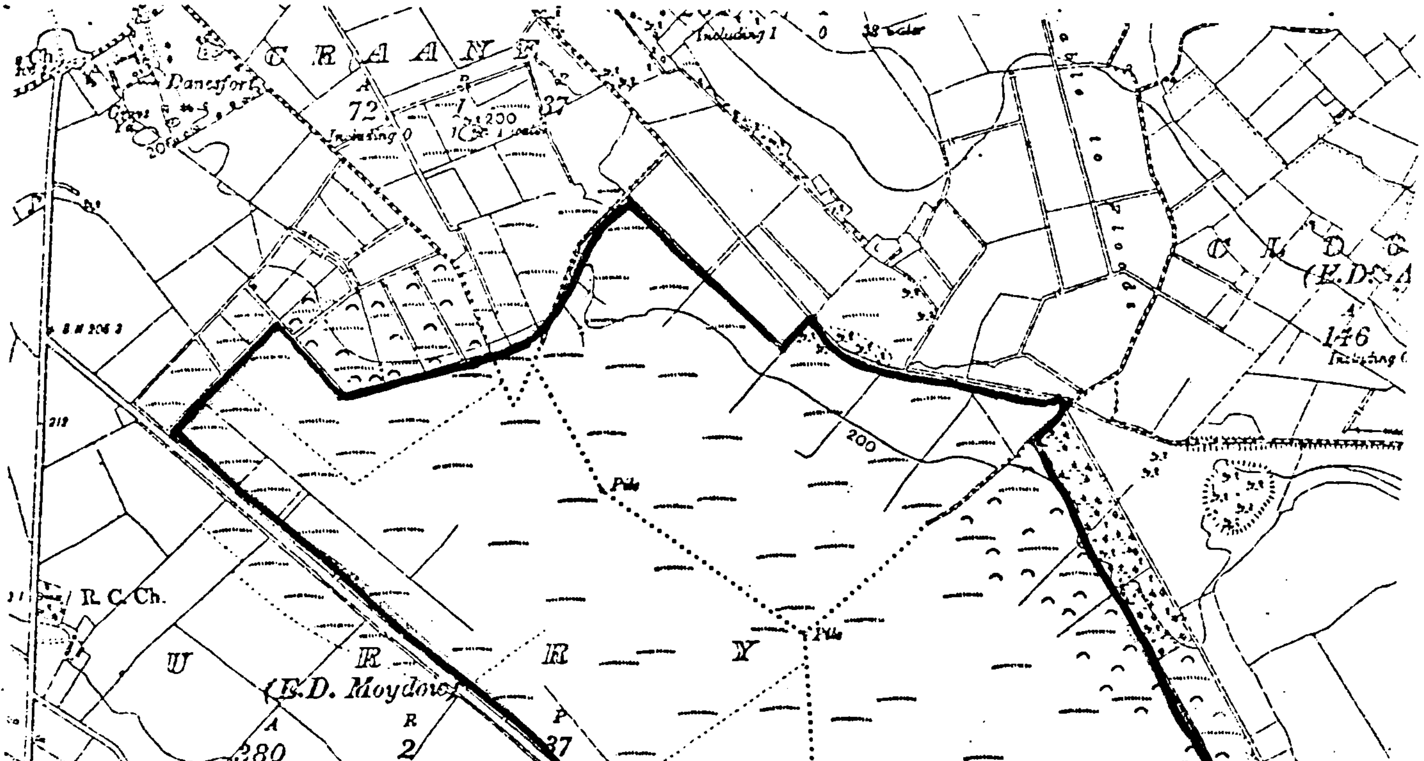
There may be future plans by Bord Na Mona to utilise the peat, but no immediate action is to be taken. Peat cutting by the local people is unlikely to deplete the vast resources for some time.

Recommendations

Some areas of bogland in the country should be preserved and as Mount Jessop is one of the few still in existence, perhaps it could be scheduled as an area for conservation.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 7

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	LOUGH BAWN
Acreage	35
Grid Reference	N. 103, 640
Scientific interest	Botanical, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	B

Description of Site

Much of the surrounding bogland has been removed by Bord Na Mona but there is a narrow strip between the lough and the road from Keenagh to Lanesborough which still remains as a raised bog.

The lough itself is very dry and very little open water remains. *Carex rostrata*, *Typha latifolia*, *Eriophorum angustifolium* and *Juncus acutiflorus* are the main species. The liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*, and *Drosera rotundifolia* (Sundew) are abundant on the open peat patches around the periphery. *Calluna vulgaris*, *Ulex europaeus* and *Betula pubescens* bushes are invading the marshland.

The area may be of ornithological interest but during the visit Curlew, Lapwing and Black-headed Gull were the only birds seen.

A forestry plantation stretches from the south eastern end to the road near Island Bridge.

Threats to the Area

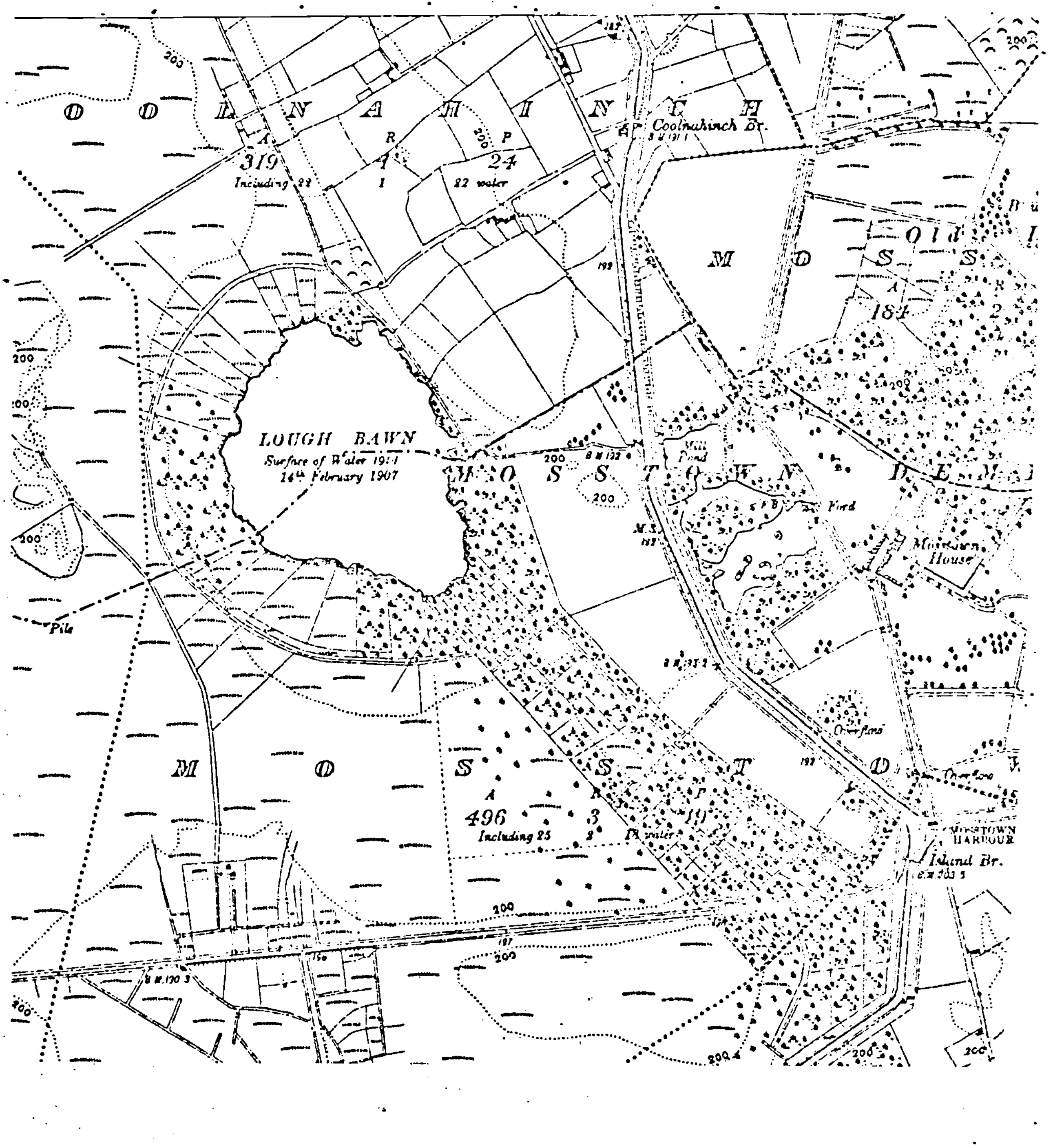
It is possible that the lake basin may be filled in by Bord Na Mona during the course of their peat excavations, and also that the lake will dry up completely.

Recommendations

If possible, the lake area should be preserved.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 9

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Site	REEF BANK AT LONGFORD DUMP
Acreage	21
Grid Reference	N. 176. 759
Scientific interest	Geomorphological, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Site

Just to the south of the Carrigglas estate is an old quarry which is used as a dump for domestic rubbish. Quarrying has revealed the rock structure which is shown to consist of horizontal beds of carboniferous limestone. Rock samples from the top of the reef bank contained fossil brachiopods and Crinoids.

This site is similar to the one at Carrickboy Quarry, but does not hold the same interest.

Threats to the Area

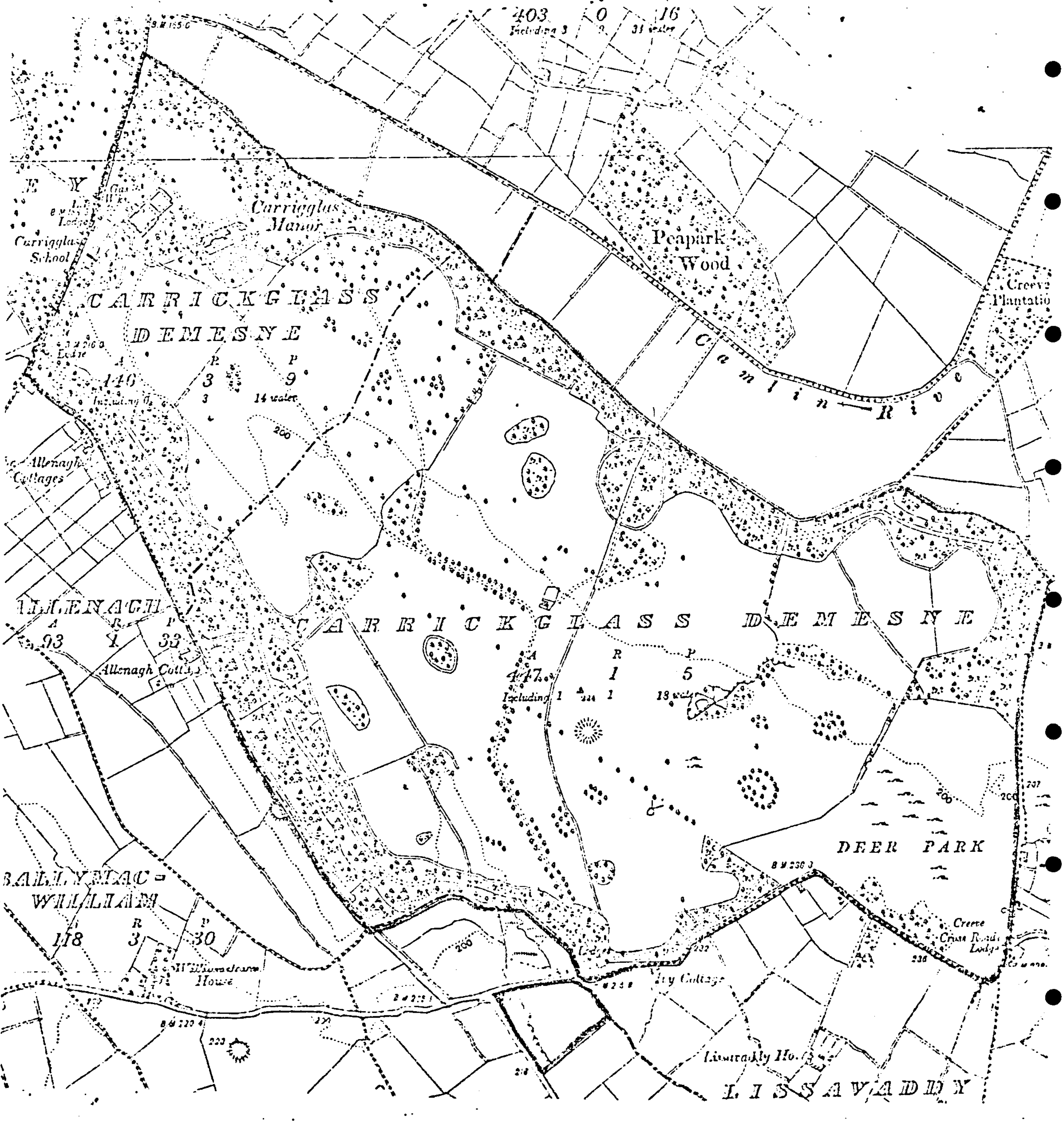
The quarry is used as a rubbish dump, but as the site is not of special interest, the dumping does not present any real threat.

Recommendations

No action needed.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 10.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	DERRY LOUGH
Acreage	57
Grid Reference	N. 096 600
Scientific Interest	Ecological, botanical, ornithological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

A small lake is enclosed by *Phragmites* which provides a belt approximately 20 yards in width. A drainage channel flowing into the main stream separates this area from a raised bog to the north and a forestry plantation to the west. Grazing land is to the east with several small holdings. South of the lake between the reeds and the road is a marshy area upon which soil heaps show the abundance of white snail shells. These and the drainage channels reveal the nature of the substratum-calcareous peat. A layer of peat about 3 feet deep rests on the calcareous soil full of shells.

The soil heaps are colonized by such species as *Stellaria media*, *Senecio vulgaris*, *Cerastium vulgatum*, *Plantago lanceolata* and *Dactylis glomerata*.

At the northern end a more open area has a carpet of the moss *Acrocladium cuspidatum* with *Carex nigra*, *Potentilla palustris*, *Sagina nodosa*, *Pedicularis palustris* being the most common species within it. *Lychnis flos-cuculi* (Ragged Robin) and *Rumex hydrolapathum* (Great Water Dock) are also found, together with scattered birch and willow trees. *Myrica gale*, *Ulex europaeus* and *Carex panicea* fringe the area and separate the open community from the raised bog, colonized by *Calluna*, *Ulex* and *Trichophorum*, to the north.

Several common frogs, *Rana temperaria*, and their spawn were seen in small pools and the following birds were noted:-

Black-headed Gull
Lapwing
Snipe
Little Grebe
Moorhen
Pochard

Threats to the Area

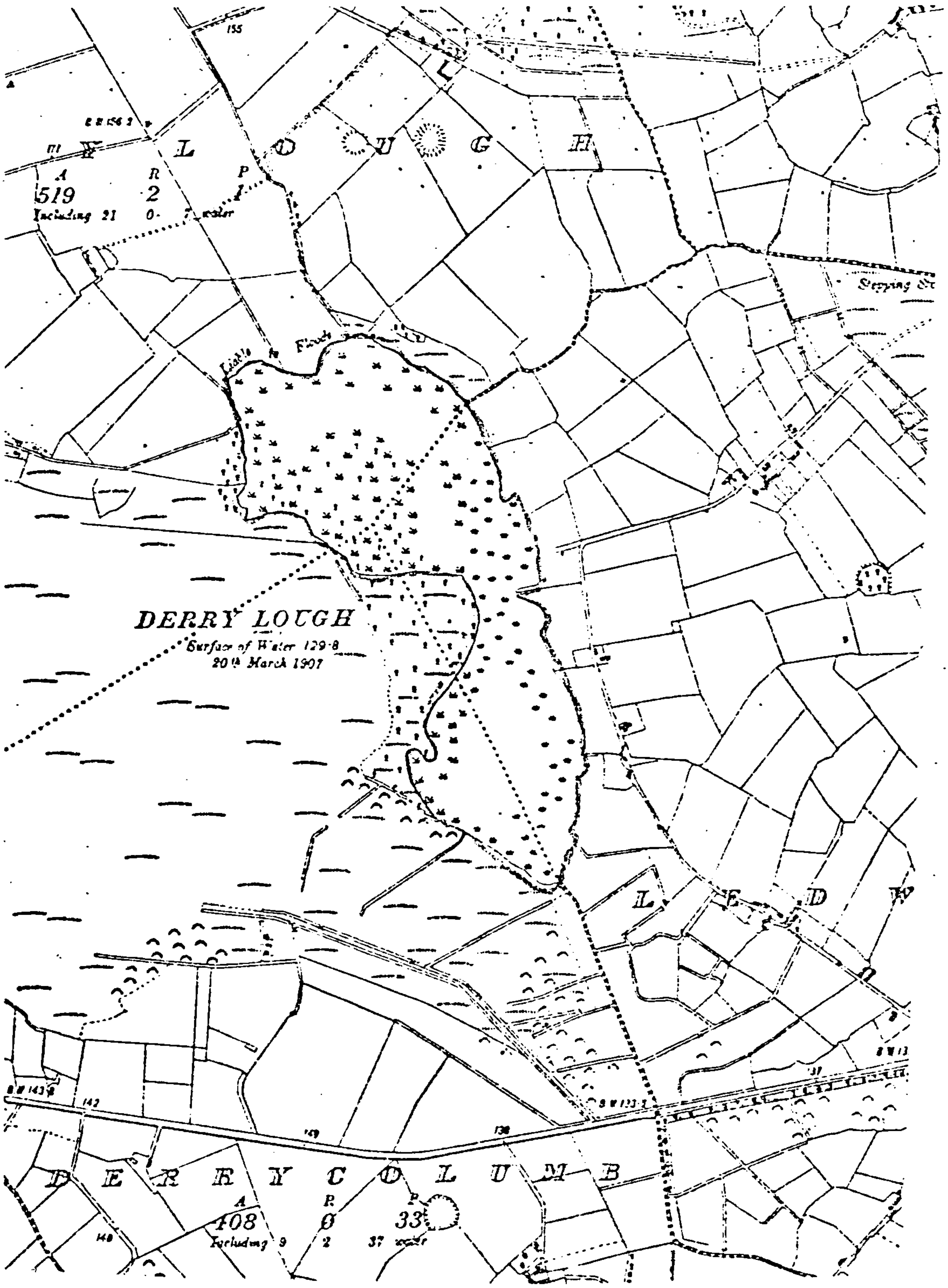
There does not seem to be any danger from local agriculture .

Recommendations

A Conservation Order including the raised bog, the lake and surrounding vegetation should be drawn up. The lake is gradually silting up and the maintenance of an area of open water is recommended in order to preserve the ornithological interest.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 11

Scale: 6-Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	DERRYMACAR LOUGH
Acreage	407
Grid Reference	N. 085 580
Scientific Interest	Ecological, botanical, ornithological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

This area is very similar to Derry Lough in that it is surrounded by Phragmites on the western side which then grades into raised bog on a small rise. The eastern shoreline has a band of short grassland backed by a line of scrub and grazing land. To the north is a fairly extensive area of Molinia grassland which is interlaced with deep drainage channels. Access is difficult and a species list was not made. This particular community needs further investigation.

Numerous ducks and Black-headed gulls were observed on the lake, but detailed information is needed before an assessment of its ornithological status is made.

Threats to the Area

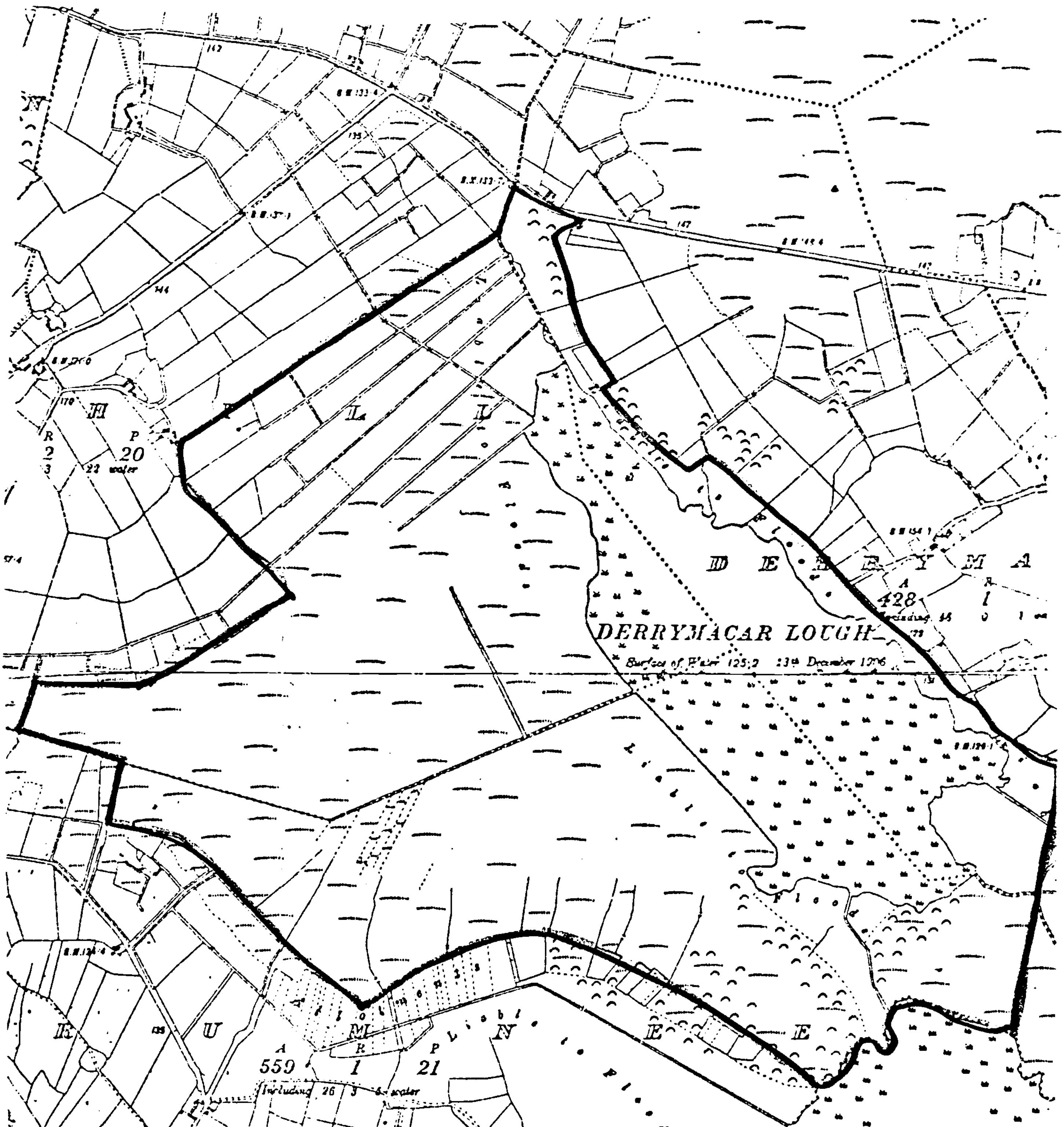
The lake flows into Lough Ree which is affected by the Ardnacrusha Power Station water intake, therefore, when the water in Lough Ree is low, the level in Derrymacar Lough may also be adversely affected. Continued low levels would result in the area drying up.

Recommendations

Low water levels in both Lough Ree and Derrymacar Lough should be prevented.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 12

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	SCOTS PINE WOODLAND AT PORTAMURE LODGE
Acreage	34
Grid Reference	N 035 048
Scientific Interest	Botanical
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

Portamure Lodge on the shore of Lough Ree is surrounded by Scots Pine woodland, presumably planted. There are also some larch trees whilst alder borders the immediate shoreline.

Threats to the Area

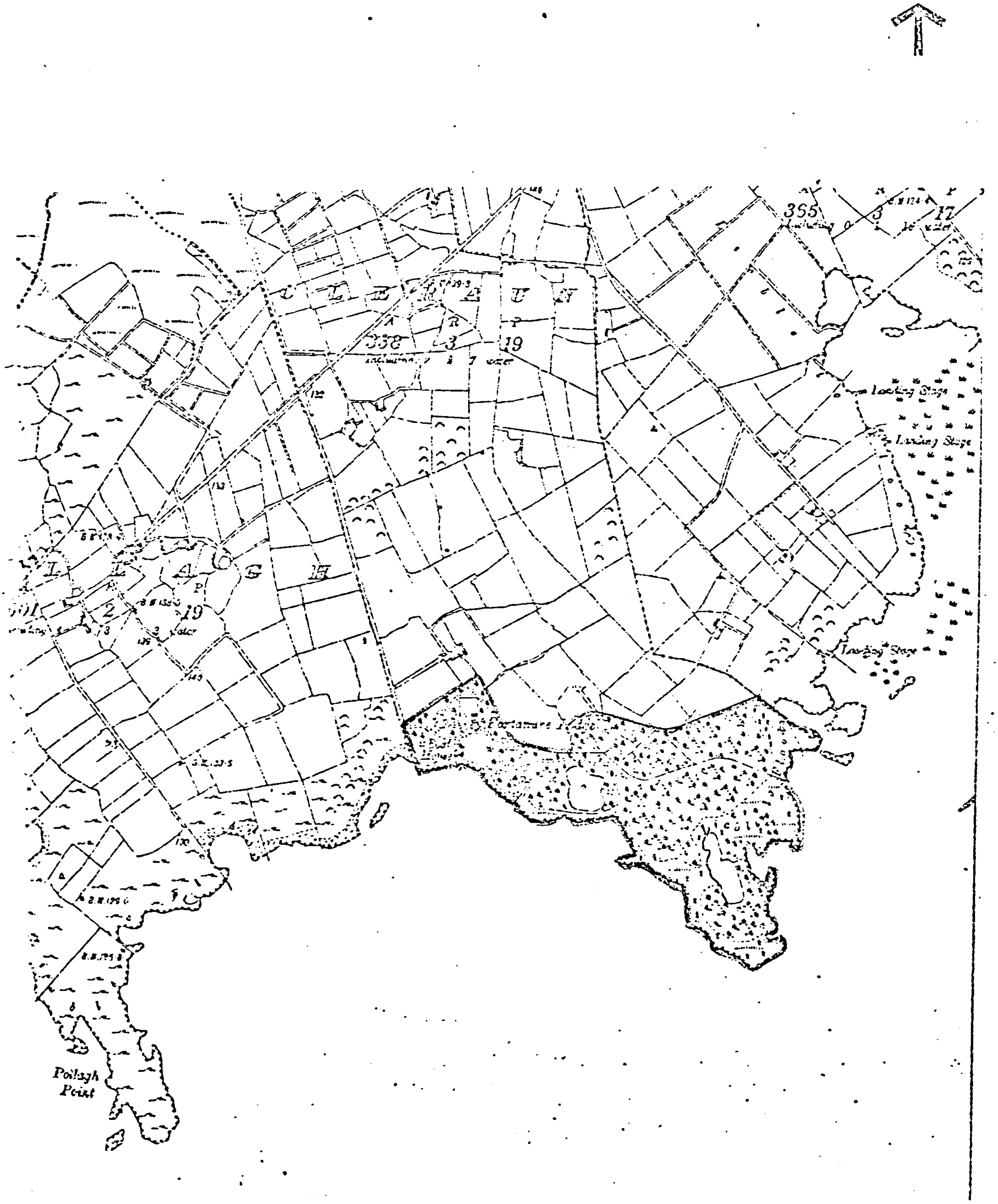
None apparent. The woodland is unlikely to be felled except in the event of a change of management.

Recommendations

No action needed.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 13

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	CULNAGORE WOOD
Acreage	301 including Lough Slawn area
Grid Reference	N 025 585
Scientific Interest	Botanical, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

A fairly extensive hazel woodland bordering Elfeet Bay. The trees are mature and approximately 20 feet in height. An understorey of holly exists and occasional oaks, beech and ash trees about 40 feet high are found. This is a good example of mature Corylus woodland.

Threats to the Area

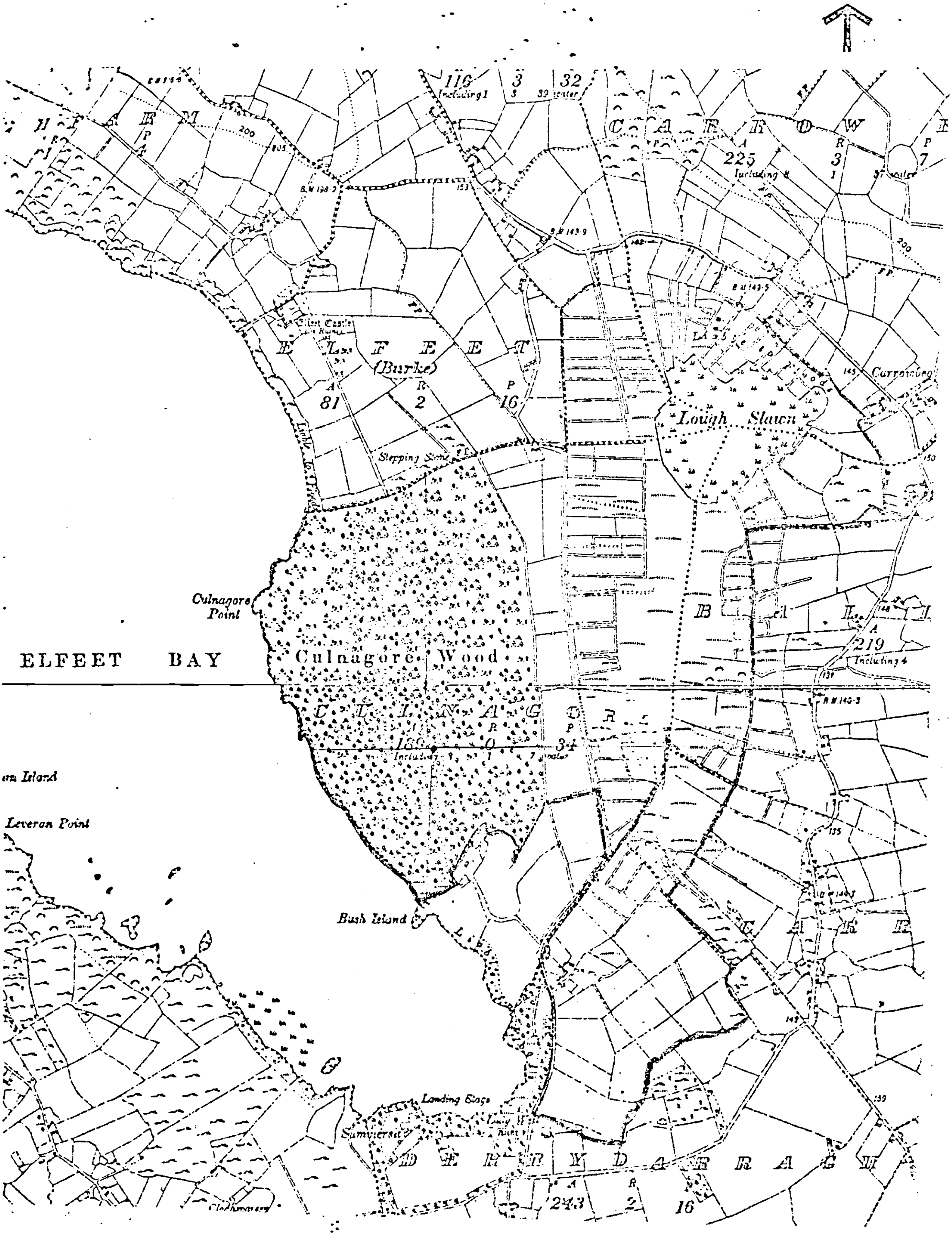
The woodland is adjacent to the Elfeet Bay picnic area and may be adversely affected by continual inundation by picnicers.

Recommendations

A Tree Preservation Order should be issued.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 14.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of area	MEADOW NEAR LOUGH SLAWN
Acreage	301 including Lough Slawn and Culnagore Wood
Grid reference	N. 033, 576
Scientific interest	Botanical, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of site

The series of fields bordering the road to the east south of Lough Slawn is interesting because of the mixture of calcicole and calcifuge species. This is due to the limestone underlying a layer of peat.

This particular meadow was visited in September 1971 when the general appearance was of a 'sea of brown' owing to the mixture of the dead leaves of the 2 grasses Molinia caerulea and Festuca arundinacea and the dark brown inflorescence heads of the umbellifer Angelica sylvestris. Several uncommon species are to be found here.

Threats to the area

None apparent

Recommendations

This strip of meadows should be included together with Culnagore Wood and Lough Slawn in a general area for conservation. The different habitats provide excellent opportunities for ecological education.

Name of Area	LOUGH SLAWN
Acreage	301 including Cuinagore Wood and meadows
Grid Reference	N. 032, 587
Scientific Interest	Ecological, Botanical
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

This is a small lough a few hundred yards to the east of the hazel Culnagore wood. It is surrounded by Phragmites which merges into Molinia grassland. Birch and willow trees are scattered throughout.

Old peat cuttings surround the basin. On the higher ground between the peat pools Schoenus nigricans is dominant with Calluna vulgaris and Ulex europaeus being fairly frequent. The pools themselves were very variable. One seemed completely stagnant with rotting vegetation in it - Potamogeton natans was dechlorophyllated. A few yards away however another pool contained a lush growth of Drepanoclados revolvens, Callictriche hermaphroditica and a Chara species. The presence of the Chara and the assemblage of herbaceous species nearby indicates that the substratum is calcareous peat.

The open marshy region between the cuttings and the lough shore supports a fairly rich flora with 27 species.

The more interesting ones include Andromeda polifolia, Triglochin palustris, Parnassia palustris, Nuphar lutea and Sparganium erectum near the shoreline, and Cladium mariscus.

Threats to the Area

None apparent.

Recommendations

The area contains examples of different types of communities with some interesting mixtures of species owing to the variation in substratum. It is not an extensive area, however, but together with Culnagore Wood and the meadow nearby, is worthy of note. General Planning Control for the whole area is recommended.

Name of Area	~~TURLOUGH NEAR~~ CORDARA ~~HOUSE~~ TURLOUGH
Acreage	54
Grid Reference	N. 030, 640
Scientific Interest	Ornithological, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

A fairly large turlough surrounded by meadowland with hundreds of duck. A comprehensive count of the birds was not made owing to the lack of field glasses. The following species were noticed, but more accurate observations are needed to assess the status of the area.

Coot
Lapwing
Herring Gull
Moorhen
Mallard
Pochard
Black-headed Gull
Heron
Common Tern
Sandpiper

Threats to the Area

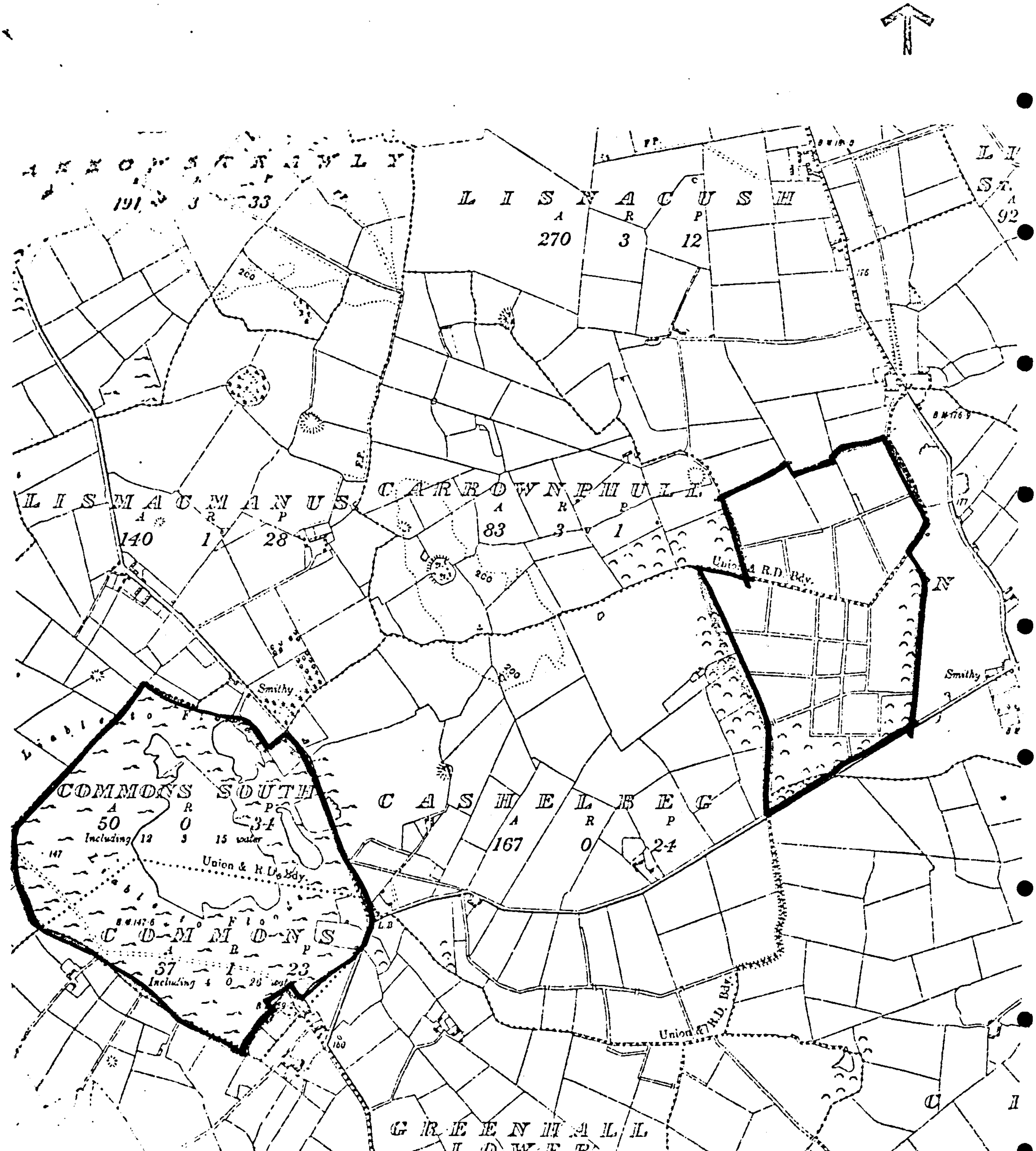
None apparent. As the area is a turlough it is unlikely that it will be affected by local agriculture.

Recommendations

A 'No Shooting' order could be designated, but because of the changeable nature of the turlough and the limited times of year when a lough exists, it is not a necessity.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 15

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



COMMONS TURLOUGH

Name of Area	TURLOUGH NEAR FORTWILLIAM
Acreage	[illegible]
Grid Reference	N. 016, 632
Scientific Interest	Ornithological, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

On the O.S. 6" map the area is marked 'Commons South' and 'Commons'. Part of the area is permanent water but the greater part is flooded only at certain times of the year. At the time of the visit in March, most of the site was under water. A few small, grassy islands existed which acted as roosting places for some of the numerous duck present. Hundreds of duck and gulls occupied the area - many being Tufted Duck and Black-headed Gulls. More accurate bird counts are needed in order to assess the importance of the area.

Because of the proximity of this site and the previous one to Lough Ree, they are obviously important roosting areas for many birds when rough conditions prevail on the large lough.

Threats to the Area

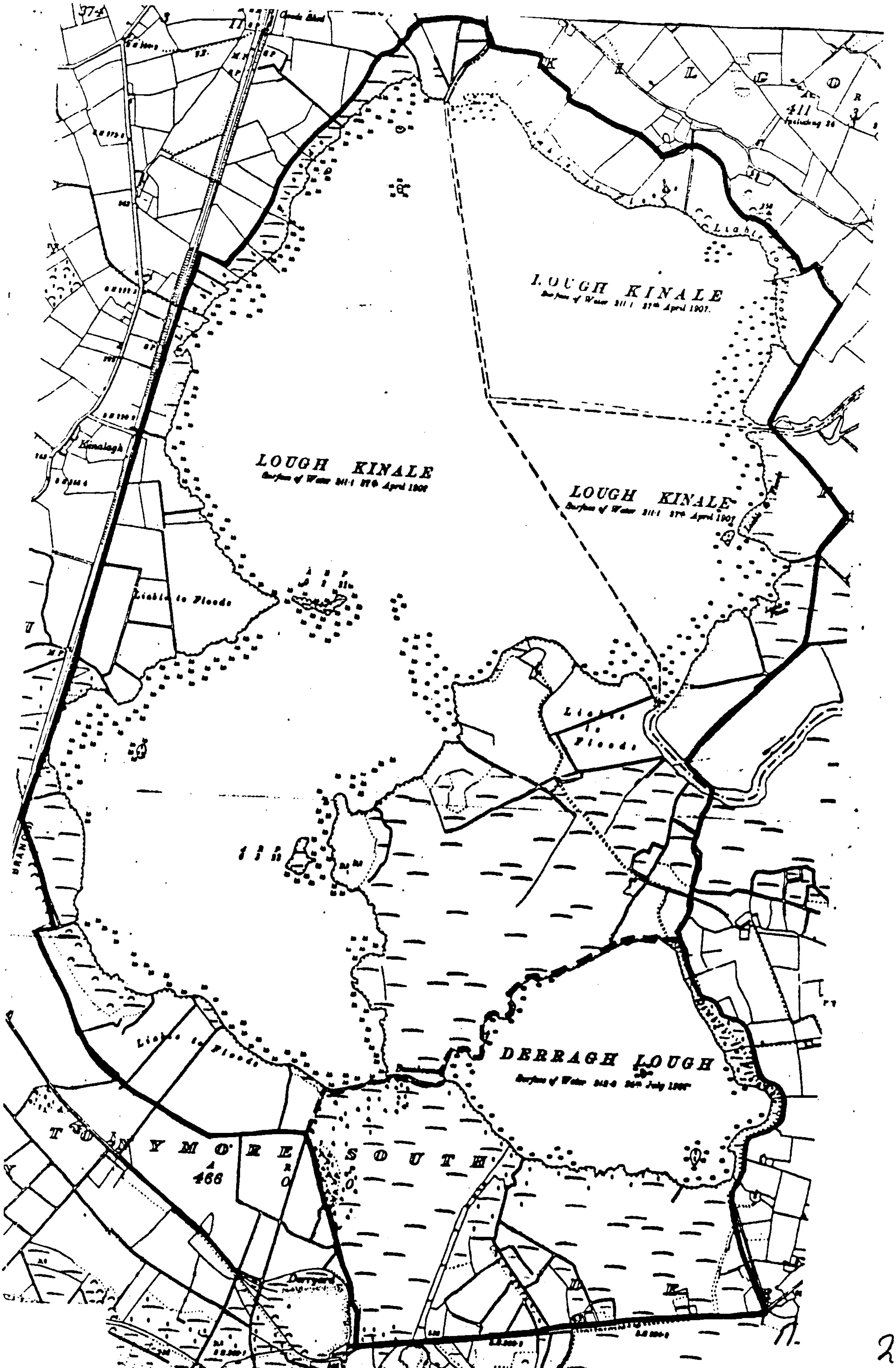
None apparent.

Recommendations

A 'No Shooting' order should be enforced as there is some water at all times of the year, and hence the wildfowl population is probably constant.

SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Scale: 5 inches to 1 mile



Name of Area	LOUGH KINALE
Acreage	968
Grid Reference	N. 382, 807
Scientific Interest	Ornithological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

The borders of three counties meet in Lough Kinale, but the largest acreage is in County Longford.

The lough itself is fringed along the western shore with *Phragmites communis*, backed by wet meadowland. The meadows themselves are not of great botanical interest and it is the numbers of wildfowl which gather on the lough which provide the main interest.

Lands at the S.Eastern end have shooting rights reserved for Ballywillan Gun Club which seems to be catering for increasing numbers of tourists.

A count on 12th January, 1969 included -

Mallard	12
Tufted Duck	2160
Pochard	2425
Mute Swan	6
Whooper Swan	3
Teal	25

A rough estimate on 23rd March 1971 gave

Whooper Swan	8
Mute Swan	38
Coot	3
Tufted Duck	500
Mallard	2
Teal	2

Threats to the Area

Continued shooting by Ballywillan Gun Club may cause the duck to move elsewhere. Bulldozers were moving earth on the eastern side - County Westmeath, further inquiries are being made about the reasons for this.

Recommendations

A 'No Shooting' order for the whole lough area should be enforced if the ornithological interest is to be maintained.

Name of Area	DERRAGH LOUGH
Acreage	216
Grid Reference	N. 398,794
Scientific interest	Botanical, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Site

This is a small open lough with an island of trees. It is surrounded by bogland which connects it with the Lough Kinale area. The area is drying up and many pockets of marsh are found bordering the lough. These are fairly interesting botanically being dominated by Scirpus lacustris and Carex nigra, but of an open nature. Herbaceous species included Pedicularis palustris, Caltha palustris, Angelica sylvestris Lychnis flos-cuculi, Sagina nodosa, Cardamine pratense, Anagallis tenella, Mentha aquatica and Nuphar lutea.

Primula veris (Primrose) and Primula vulgaris (Cowslip) grow by the side of the trackway leading down to the shore and the hybrid Primula veris x vulgaris is also to be found.

Numerous fresh water mussels are found on the shoreline.

Threats to the Area

Further drainage of the area would adversely affect the area.

Recommendations

The lough surrounding marshes and bogland should be included with the Lough Kinale area as an area of scientific interest and general planning control considered.

Name of Area	RATHCLINE CASTLE AND NEARBY WOODLANDS
Acreage	112
Grid Reference	N. 003, 670
Scientific Interest	Botanical, Archaeological, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

Rathcline Castle itself is situated approximately 1/4 mile from the shore of Lough Ree. The outer wall and one tower remain. The marshland down to the shore is not of great botanical interest, but the oak woodland to the north is worthy of note.

Annamore Wood and White Sand Wood are mainly *Quercus robur* with some *Acer pseudoplatanus* (Sycamore) and an understorey of *Ilex aquilifolium* (Holly). Other woods to the south are mixtures of natural woodland and planted conifers.

Threats to the Area

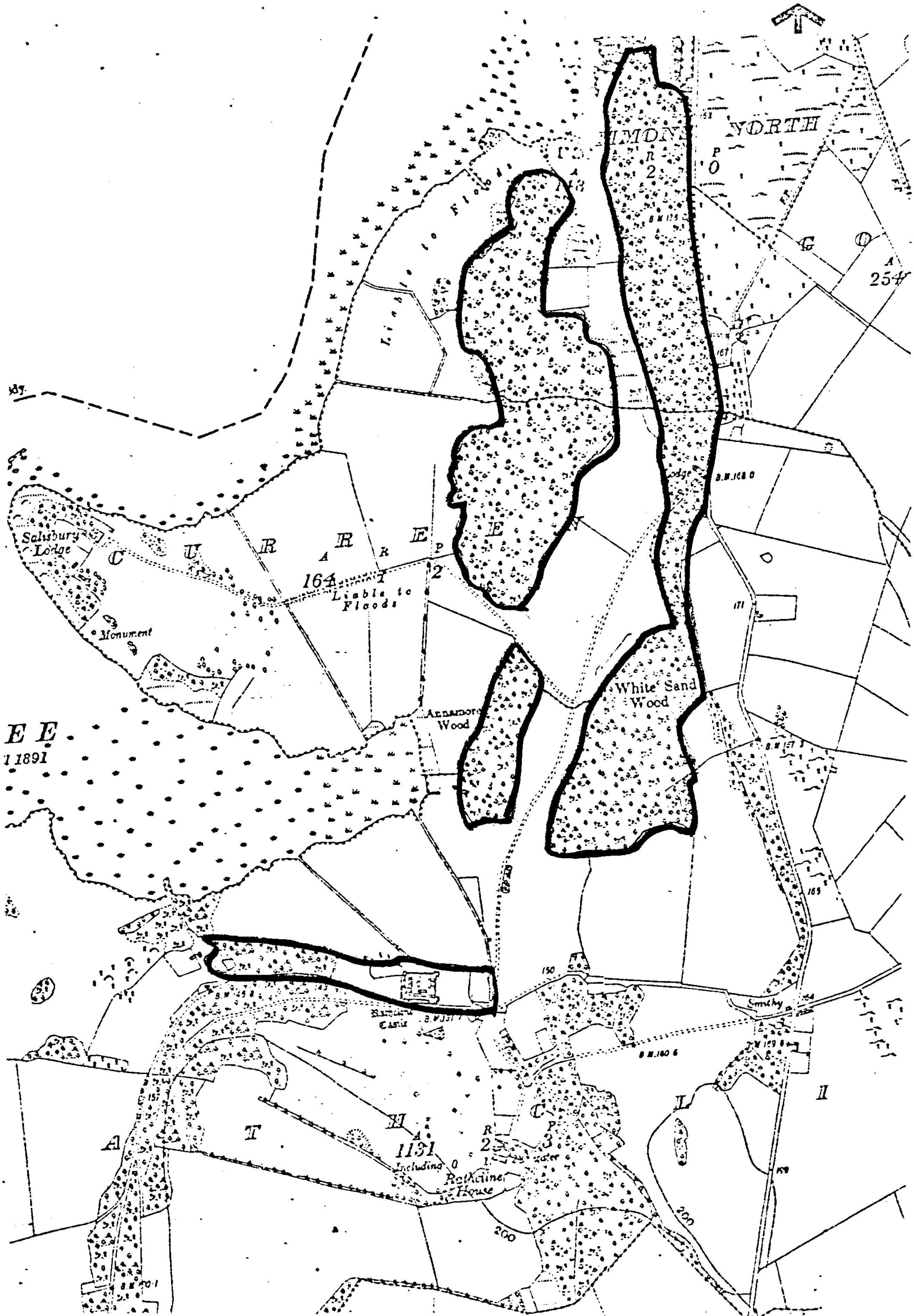
None apparent.

Recommendations

A Tree Preservation Order should be issued.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 17

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	LOUGH BANNOW
Acreage	640
Grid Reference	N. 030, 690
Scientific Interest	Ecological, Ornithological, Botanical
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

A small area of open water existed when visited in March. The lake is becoming choked by Phragmites communis. Numerous drainage channels interconnect throughout the area providing habitats for aquatic species, but depleting the lake area. To the west is a wet, muddy meadow with very short vegetation which is obviously frequently inundated. Five Whooper Swans were roosting here.

A small raised hillock stood in the centre of the dried up region; and a Harrier was seen hunting around it.

To the east, birch and alder trees were scattered and gorse bushes grew around the perimeter. Further investigation of the botany is needed in a drier period, but no comprehensive list was made during the visit owing to the deep drainage channels being unnegotiable.

Whooper Swan, Curlew, Snipe, Moorhen, Mallard and a Harrier were observed during the short visit and the area is probably of greater ornithological interest.

A small part of raised bog is found to the east along the roadside, and this adds to the habitat diversity.

Threats to the Area

The continued drainage of the area would detract from its ecological value.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 18.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile

Name of Area	KNOLL-REEF NEAR NEWTOWN HOUSE
Acreage	9.6
Grid Reference	N. 266, 635
Scientific interest	Geolomorphological, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of the Area

A low knoll reef of dark, calcite mudstone with abundant fossils, by the side of the Legan - Rathaspick road. Part of the knoll has been removed by quarrying. Hawthorn scrub now covers much of the top and most of the exposed rock surfaces are colonized by the moss Ctenidium molluscum.

Threats to the Area

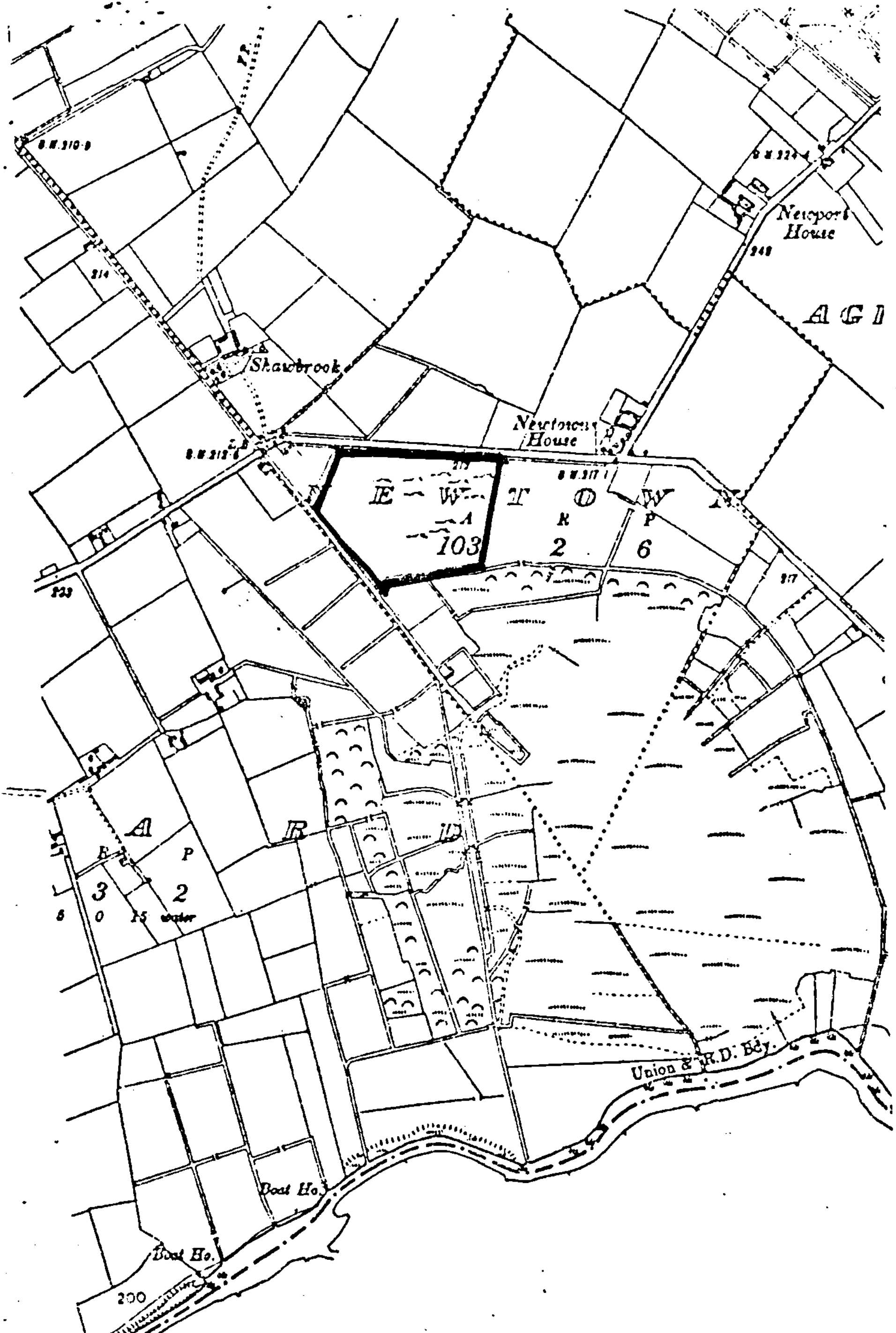
None apparent.

Recommendations

No further quarrying should be carried out. General planning control for the areas in which this, and the other knoll reefs in Longford, are found is recommended.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 19.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	KNOLL-REEF NEAR FERSKILL HOUSE
Acreage	13
Grid Reference	N. 312, 790
Scientific interest	Geomorphological, ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of the Site

A small, marginal shelf knoll reef, partly removed by quarrying. It is of a dark calcite mudstone in which stems of crinoids are abundant and act as "spirit levels" but the initial dip has not been established however. The fauna is of the D (*Dibunophyllum*) zone, which indicates that the reef must be fairly high in the Viséan succession.

The surrounding grassland is of the *Festuca ovina*/*Cynosurus cristatus* type and is not of great botanical interest. Gorse and hawthorn bushes are growing on one side of the knoll.

Threats to the Area

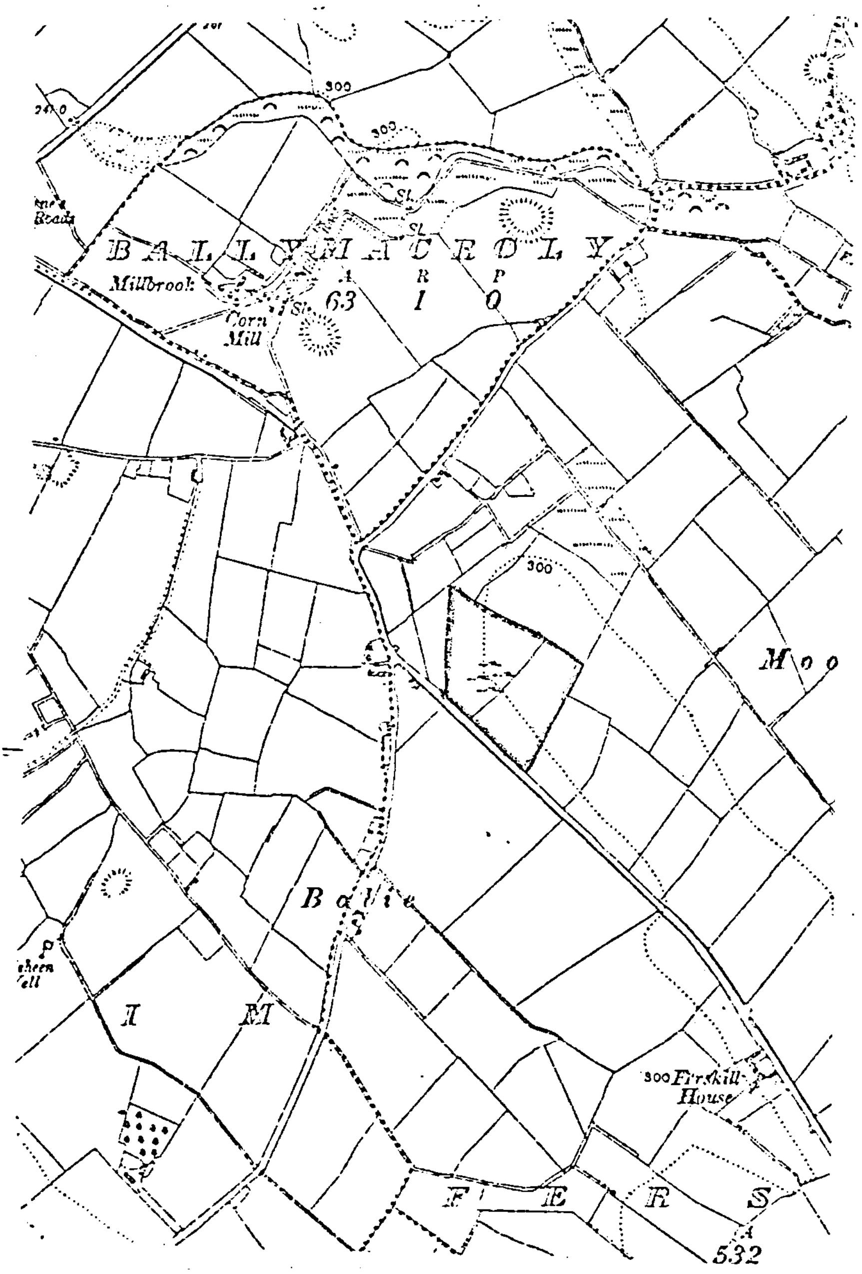
None apparent.

Recommendations

Further quarrying should be prevented and as with the other knoll reefs in the country, general planning control should be considered.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 20.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	SMALL QUARRY AT KILLOE CHURCH
Acreage	19·6
Grid Reference	N. 197. 780
Scientific interest	Geomorphological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Site

The church is situated on a mound in which there is a small quarry exposing the rock structure.

The rock itself is similar to that of the knoll reefs found elsewhere in the country, but no fossils were found. Horizontal bands of micritic limestone, varying in thickness from 1 mm to 12 inches form the whole of the outcrop. It is probable that these facies are from below (in geological succession) the reef facies found elsewhere in the country.

Threats to the Area

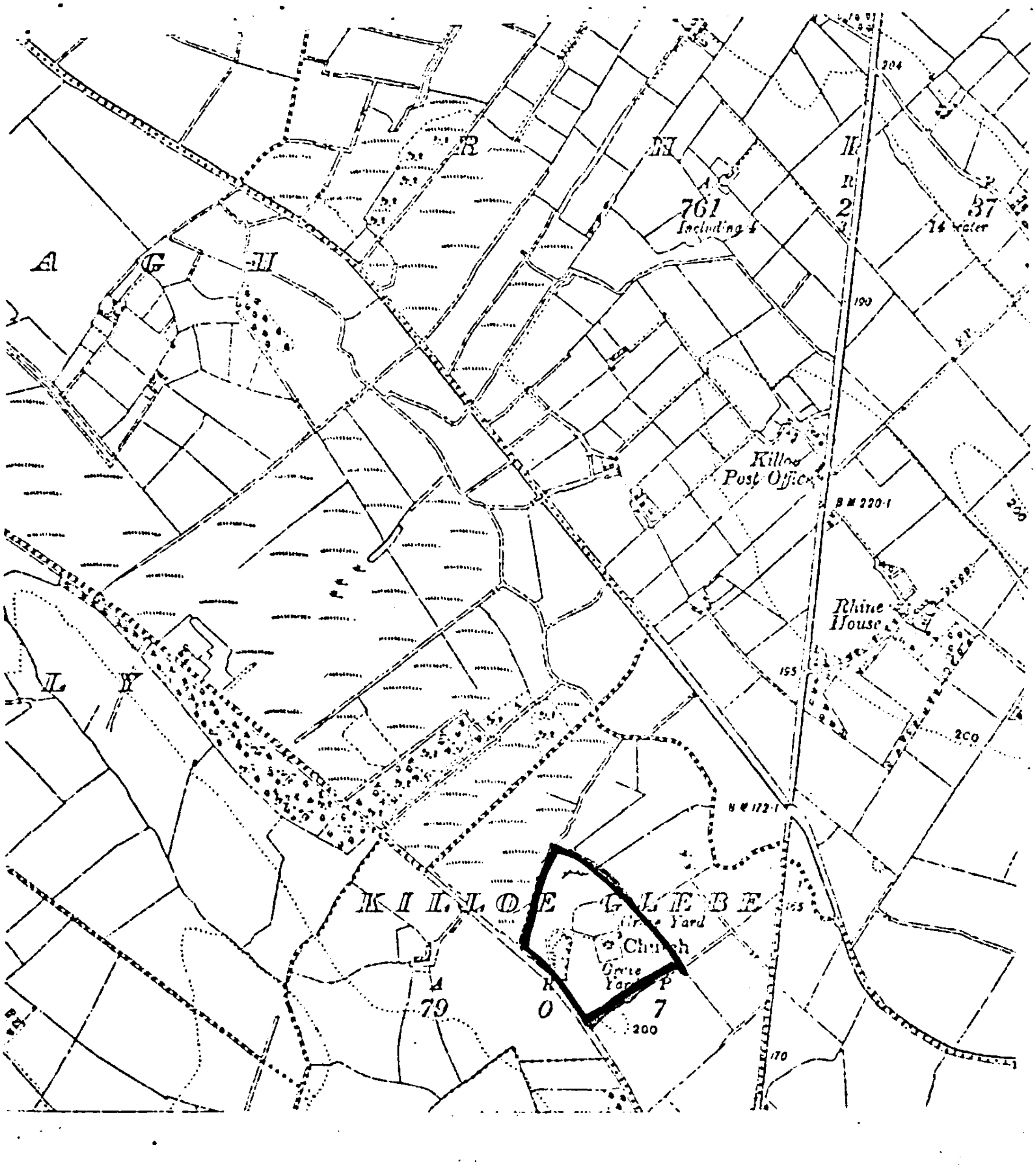
None.

Recommendations

No action needed.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 21.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	CARRIGGLAS DEMESNE
Acreage	501
Grid Reference	N. 175, 768
Scientific interest	Ecological, botanical
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Site

Narrow strips of oak woodland border the estate. The trees are magnificent specimens reaching heights of 100 feet. Although not an extensive area of woodland, there are very few old oak woods in the country and so this particular area is worth a mention. The estate is owned by a Miss Lefroy.

Threats to the Area

None appanent.

Recommendations

A Tree Preservation Order should be drawn up.

Name of area	ROYAL CANAL	
Acreage	-	
Grid references	N. 234, 598	N 123, 637
		N 168, 585
Scientific interest	Botanical	
Rating	Local	
Priority	C	

Description of site

The Royal Canal is unnavigable for most of its length in Co. Longford as it is colonized by reeds.

In its southern reaches at Abbeyshrule aqueduct (N. 234, 598) there is a little standing water but Glyceria maxima (Reed-grass) and Scirpus lacustris (Bulrush) cover the river bed completely. Small willow trees are becoming established and a few herbaceous species are present - Rumex hydrolapathum (Great Water Dock) being one.

Outside Ballymahon at N. 163, 585 there is a little more water and Glyceria maxima completely dominates the bed.

Further north, at Island Bridge, Keenagh,N. 123, 637 again Glyceria maxima is the main species but there are also patches of Phragmites communis which indicate the drier nature of this stretch.

The eastern branch from near Killashee to Longford town is very dry, but the western branch near Cloondara holds more water.

A full botanical investigation at each of these locations was not made but a further investigation later in the year is recommended. The dry nature of the canal probably means that nothing of outstanding interest will be found, but it provides an undisturbed 'refuge' belt and an example of another ecological habitat. Frogs and reed birds may be found in the seclusion of the reeds.

Threats to the area

A continued trend towards a drier community means that some of the semi-aquatic species now found there will disappear, but other species will replace these and a different habitat arise.

Dumping of rubbish in stretches is likely, but no great mounds were seen at the areas visited.

Recommendations

Rubbish dumping should be prevented. If possible the wetter areas should be maintained as such. No further action is necessary as it is a changing habitat due to the present dry conditions and should be left to 'evolve'.

A more complete sutdy is needed to assess its value more accurately.

Name of Area	RIVER SHANNON AT LANESBOROUGH
Acreage	8
Grid Reference	N. 006, 695
Scientific interest	Ecological, zoological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

A turf-fired Bord na Mona power station is situated on the east bank of the Shannon, a few hundred yards north of the Lanesborough bridge. The hot water effluent produces some interesting biological effects. Most of the outflow enters the Shannon via a side channel and the water is appreciably warmer here. Numerous large fresh water mussels lie half-buried in the mud amongst the yellow Water Lilies (*Nuphar lutea*). The fishing is reputed to be excellent and several specimen fish were caught here last year. There does not appear to be any change in the natural vegetation however.

Threats to the Area

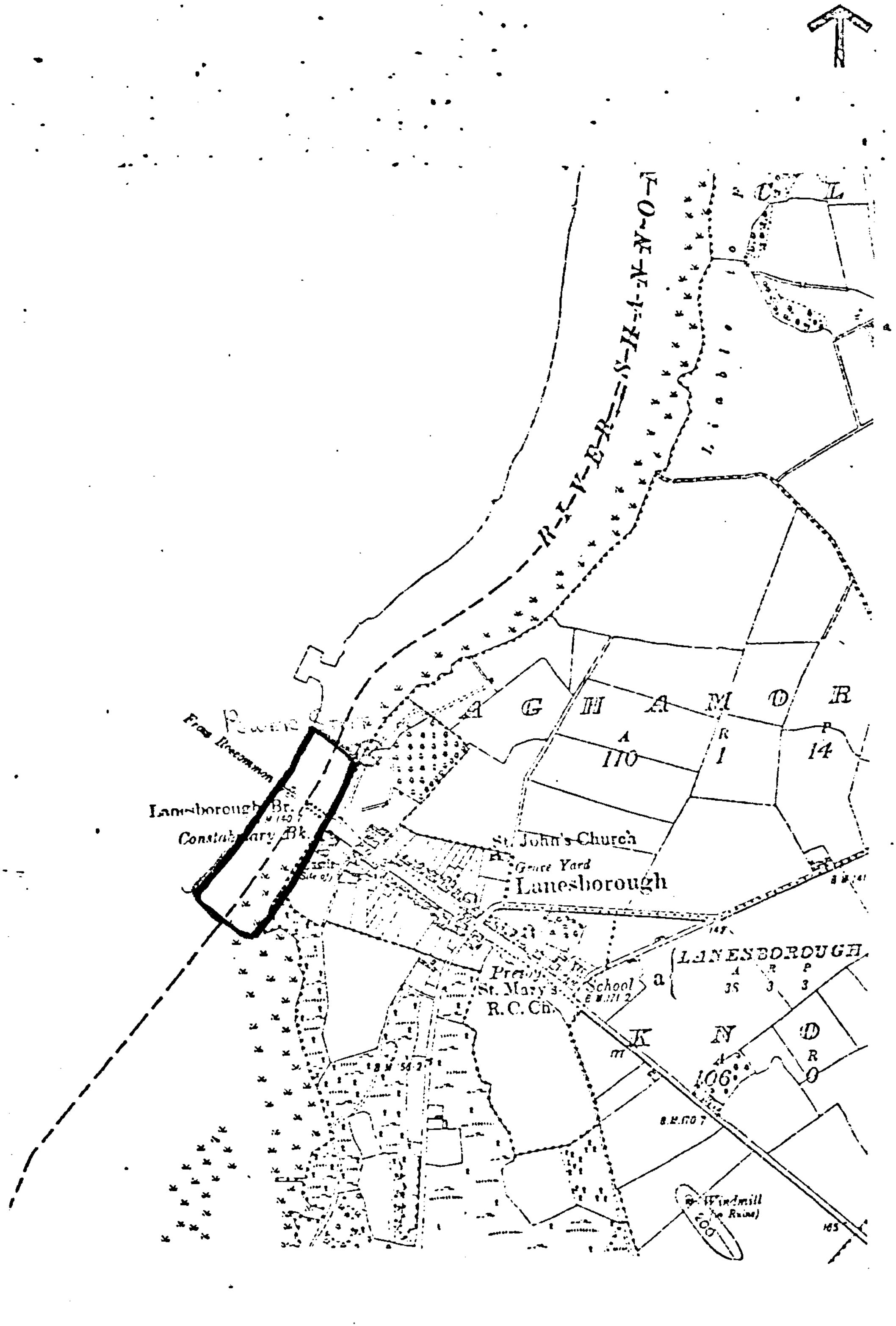
Warm water produces interesting biological effects, often enhancing growth, but hot water would destroy most life. However, the volume of cold water in the Shannon would immediately counteract a hot effluent and only where the effluent enters the river is there likely to be a detrimental affect.

Recommendations

No action necessary. Only anglers visit the area and they are unlikely to cause any damage here.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 22.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



Name of Area	CASTLE FORBES DEMESNE
Acreage	1125
Grid Reference	N. 091, 7~~8~~92
Scientific Interest	Ornithological, Botanical, Archaeological, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

Castle Forbes is a 19th century building and is the seat of the Earl of Granard. Up till recently Lady Granard was the owner, but the estate has now passed into the hands of her son.

Only a small part of the demesne was visited, the area around Big Bay. Clonguish Wood to the south of the bay has an avenue of magnificant beech and oak trees. Behind these is a wood consisting of hazel and sycamore with planted spruce.

Annagh Wood to the north is an oak woodland.

To the east of the bay is a fringe of Scots Pine in which a heron was nesting. Mute Swans and Tufted Duck were seen in the bay.

Other woods in the estate were not visited - most of them are mixed forest and probably all planted.

Threats to the Area

A change in management is unlikely but may adversely affect the natural woodlands.

Recommendations

The woodlands around the shore of Lough Forbes should be preserved. The lake, itself is a wildfowl refuge and as such is protected.

Name of Area	LOUGH NABACK
Acreage	29
Grid Reference	N. 240. 947
Scientific Interest	Ecological, Zoological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

An acid upland lake surrounded by grazing land with a nearby quarry. There are areas of grassland with a fairly rich species diversity - 32 recorded - and small rocky promontories which are sparsely covered with heather. It is more interesting than most upland lakes and rated as Grade A by the Fisheries Department, owing to the occurrence of Char. Mosses of frog spawn were found in the shallows and in the small streams flowing into the lough.

The grassland is a mixture of *Sieglingia decumbens*, *Festuca rubra*, *Cynosurus cristatus* and *Agrostis stolonifera* and the sedges *Carex flacca* and *C. panicea*: with the main herbaceous species being *Prunella vulgaris*, *Succisa pratensis*, *Hypochoeris radicata*, *Hypericum pulchrum*, *Trifolium pratensis*, *Bellis perennis* and *Hypericum pulchrum*. One of the rock outcrops was sparsely covered with very unhealthy *Calluna* and the grass *Festuca rubra*, the moss *Dicranum scoparium* and several lichens.

Threats to the Area

Several of the streams were polluted as was the lake itself - much of the vegetation atound the edges was covered with a brown slime.

(Batrachospermum.

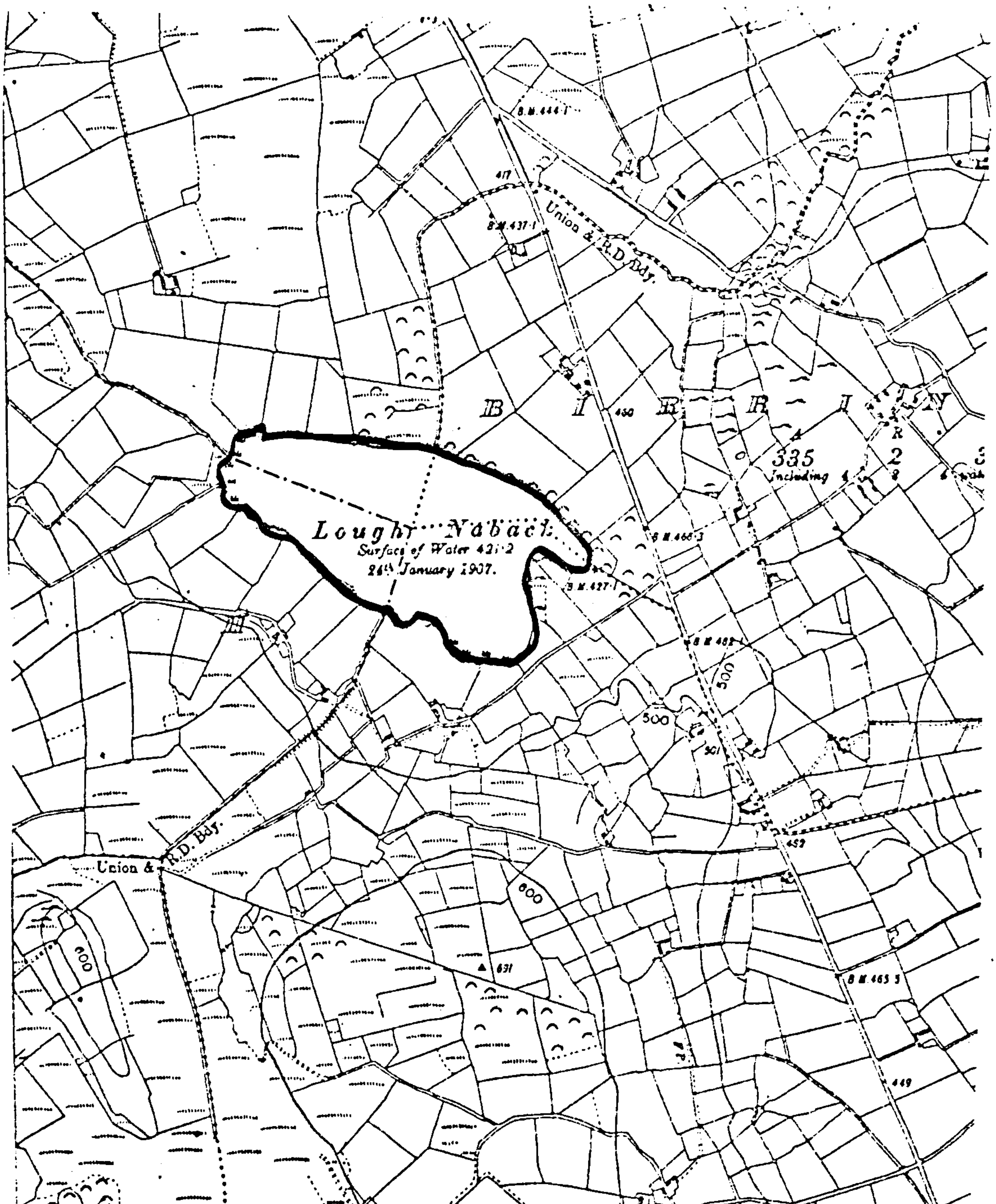
Recommendations

A water analysis should be undertaken to ascertain the degree of pollution and the appropriate action taken. A Fishery Statute protects the fish themselves. Because of the situation of the lough it is not likely to be inundated by many people and does not need a Conservation Order.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 24

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile

N



Name of Area	ERNE HEAD, LOUGH GOWNA
Acreage	63
Grid Reference	N. 280, 871
Scientific Interest	Botanical, Ecological
Rating	Local
Priority	C

Description of Area

Erne Head on the south-eastern shore of Lough Gowna is predominantly an oak woodland, with trees reaching a height of 80 feet. The understorey is mainly beech - a few large beeches about a 100 feet high are found - with some holly and hazel. The ground flora includes *Blechnum spicant* (Hard Fern), *Vaccinium myrtilis*, (Bilberry), *Rubus fruticosus* (Blackberry), *Hedera helix* (Ivy), *Luzula sylvatica* (Wood Rush), *Thuidium tamariscinum* and *Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus* (mosses) and a little *Calluna vulgaris* (Ling).

The western edge of the wood is planted with spruce and at the southern edge there is a small grove of Lawson's Cypress, a few pines and Western Hemlock.

A dead heron, recently shot, was found in the wood - assumedly it had been nesting in Scots Pine.

Between the roadway and the woodland is a small area of raised bog which adds to the ecological diversity. As this is the only natural woodland of any size on the Longford shore of Lough Gowna, and is one of the few areas of oak woodland in the county, it is of considerable importance.

Threats to the Area

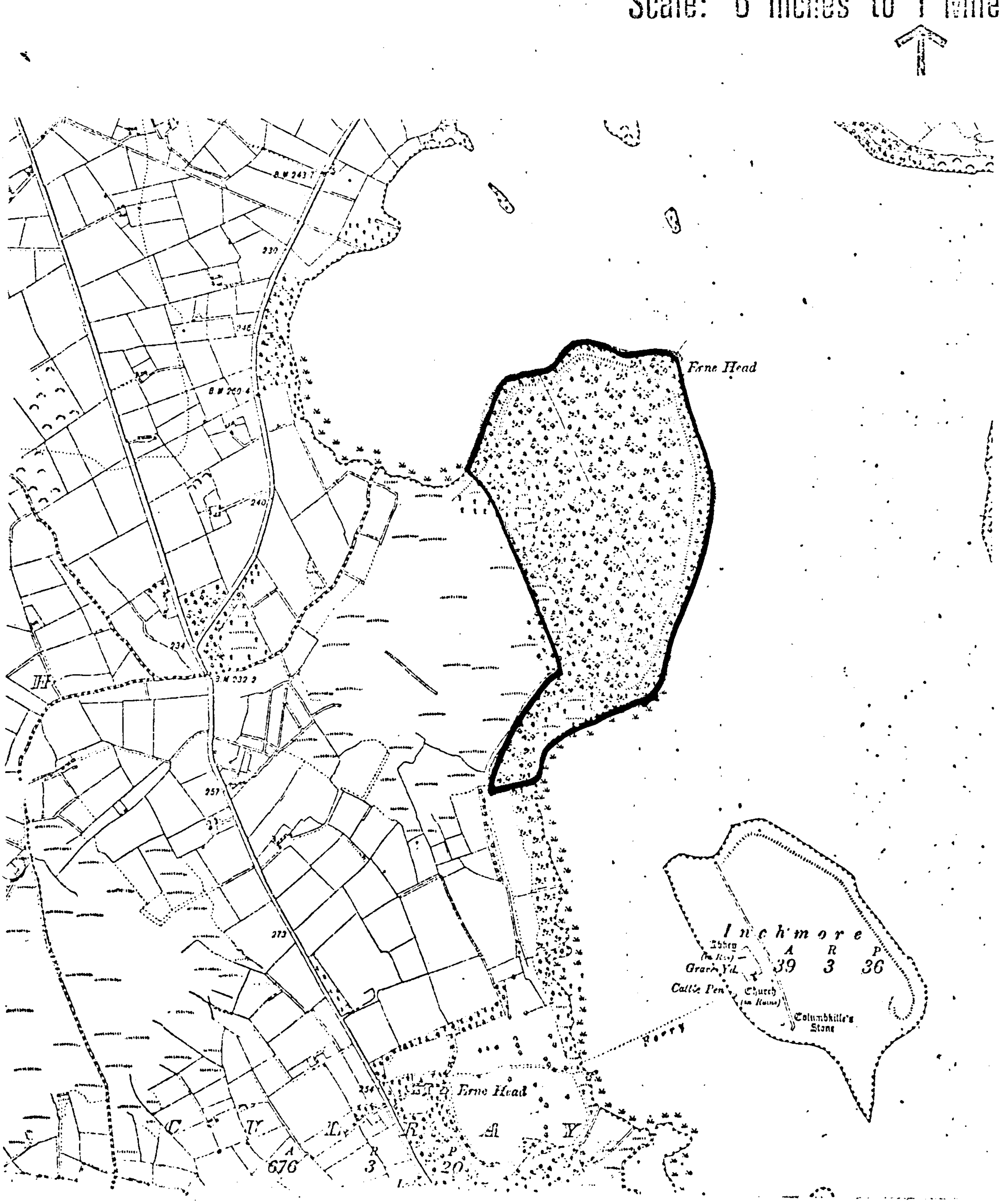
None apparent.

Recommendations

A Tree Preservation Order should be issued.

MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 25

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



SECTION G.

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EACH AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Site	No Protection Necessary	General Planning Control	Special Amenity Area Order	Conservation Order	Tree Preservation Order
Carrickboy Quarry		X		X	
Lough Ree		X	X		
Lough Forbes		X			X
Cloondara Bog				X *	
Cloonshinnagh Bog				X	
Mount Jessop and Derrymore Bogs		X			
Lough Bawn		X			
Longford Dump	X				

* Proposed milled-peat extraction

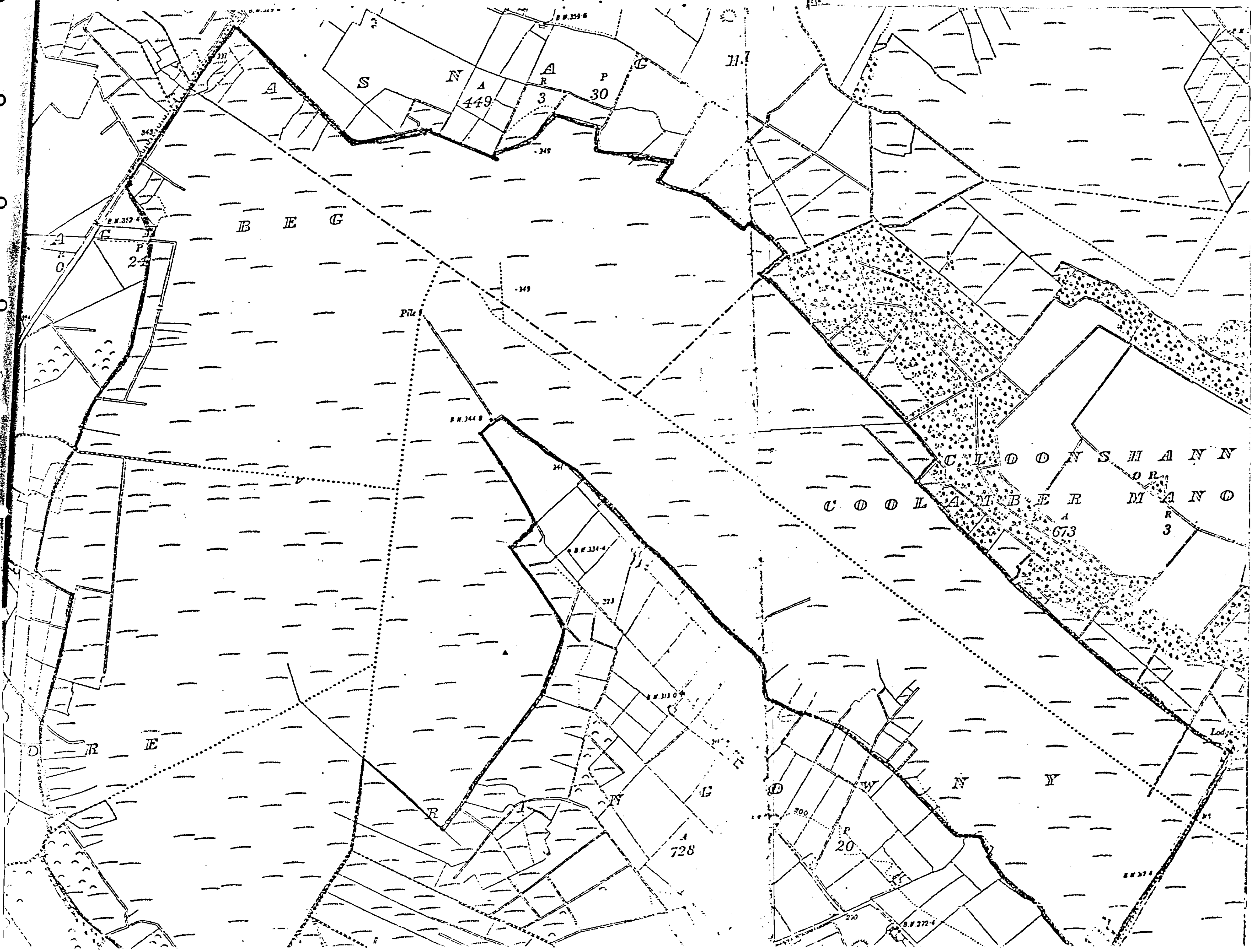
Site	No Protection Necessary	General Planning Control	Special Amenity Area Order	Conservation Order	Tree Preservation Order
Turlough near Fortwilliam				X No shooting	
Lough Kinale				X No shooting	
Derragh Lough		X			
Rathcline Castle					X
Lough Bannow		X			
Newtown House		X			
Ferskill House		X			
Killoe Church	X				

Site	No Protection Necessary	General Planning Control	Special Amenity Area Order	Conservation Order	Tree Preservation Order
Derry Lough				X	
Derrymacar Lough		X			
Portamore Lodge	X				
Culnagore Wood					X
Meadows near Lough Slawn		X			
Lough Slawn		X			
Turlough near Cordara House				X No shooting	

Site	No Protection Necessary	General Planning Control	Special Amenity Area Order	Conservation Order	Tree Preservation Order
Carrigglas Manor					X
Royal Canal		X			
River Shannon at Lanesborough	X				
Castle Forbes		X			X
Lough Naback	X				
Erne Head					X

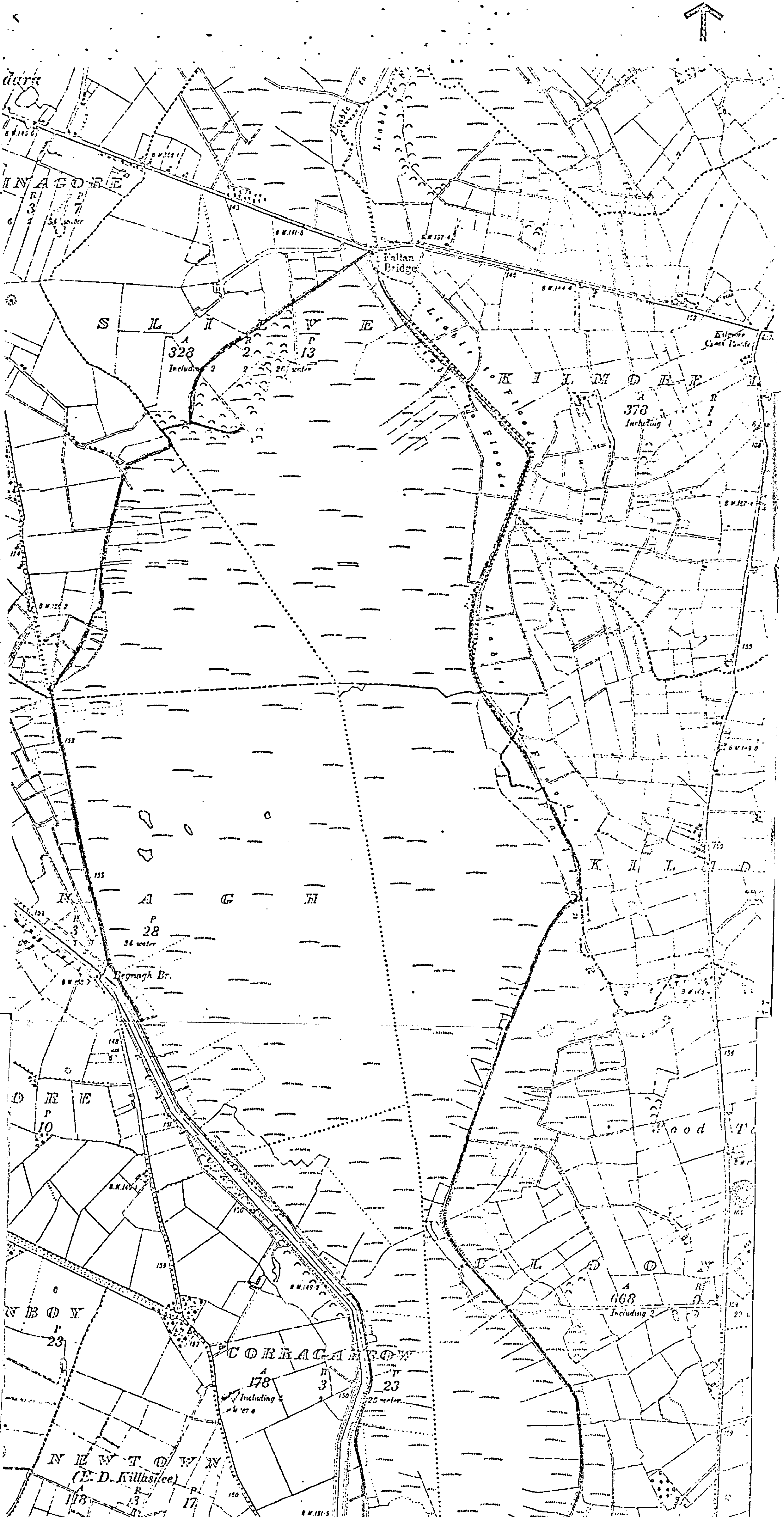
MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 6

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



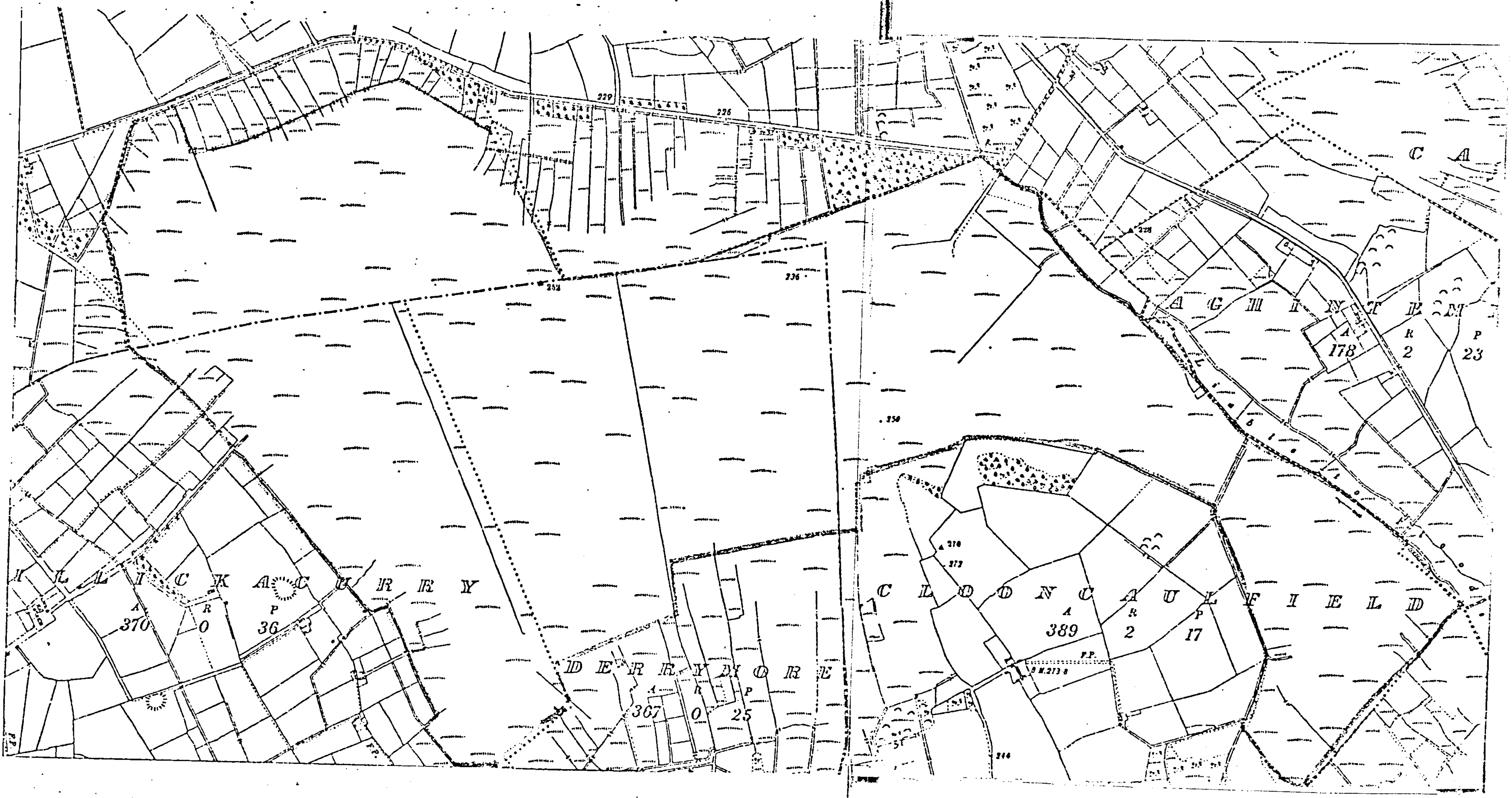
MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 5.

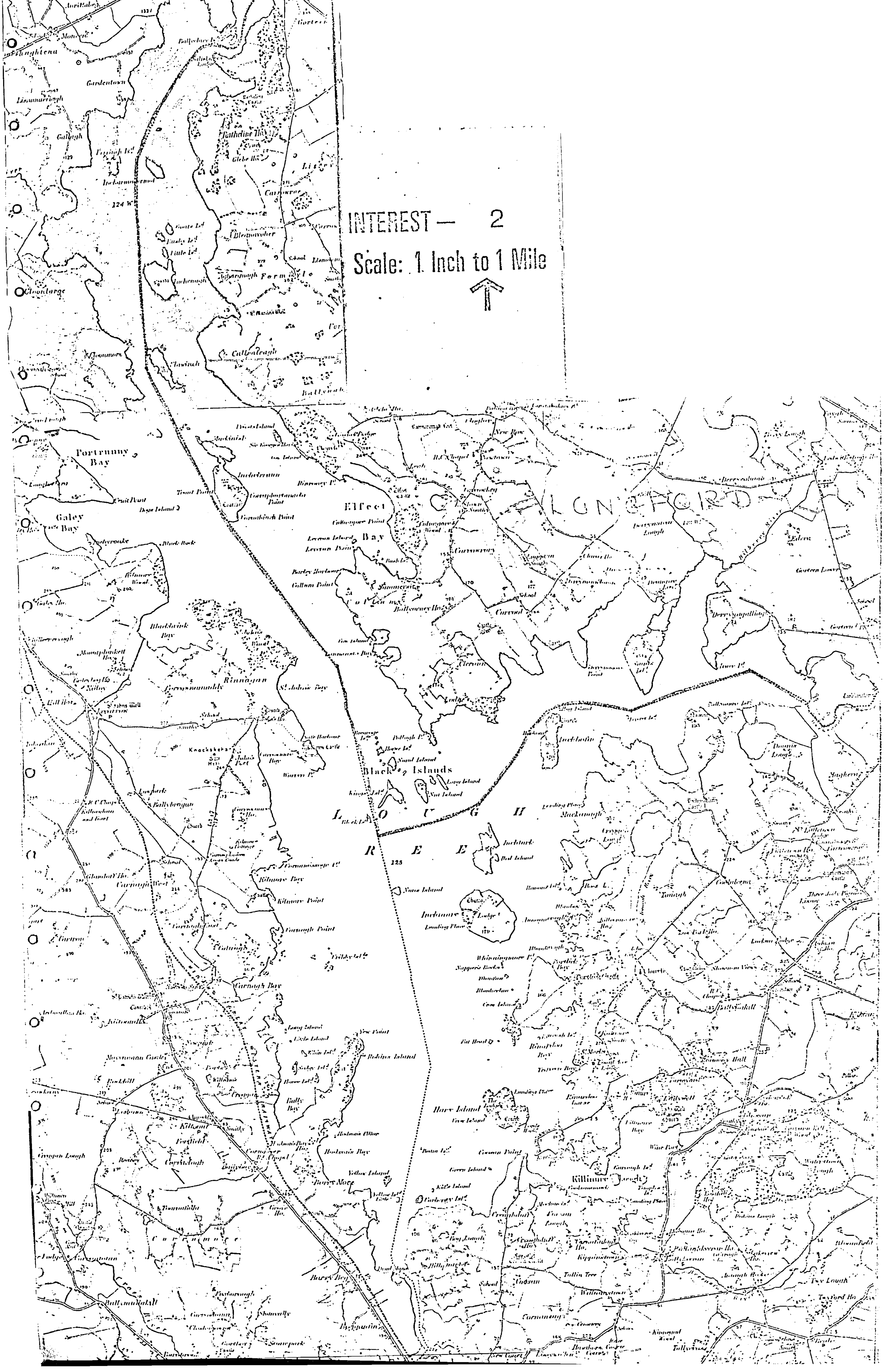
Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile



MAP SHOWING AREA OF SCIENTIFIC INTEREST — 8.

Scale: 6 Inches to 1 Mile

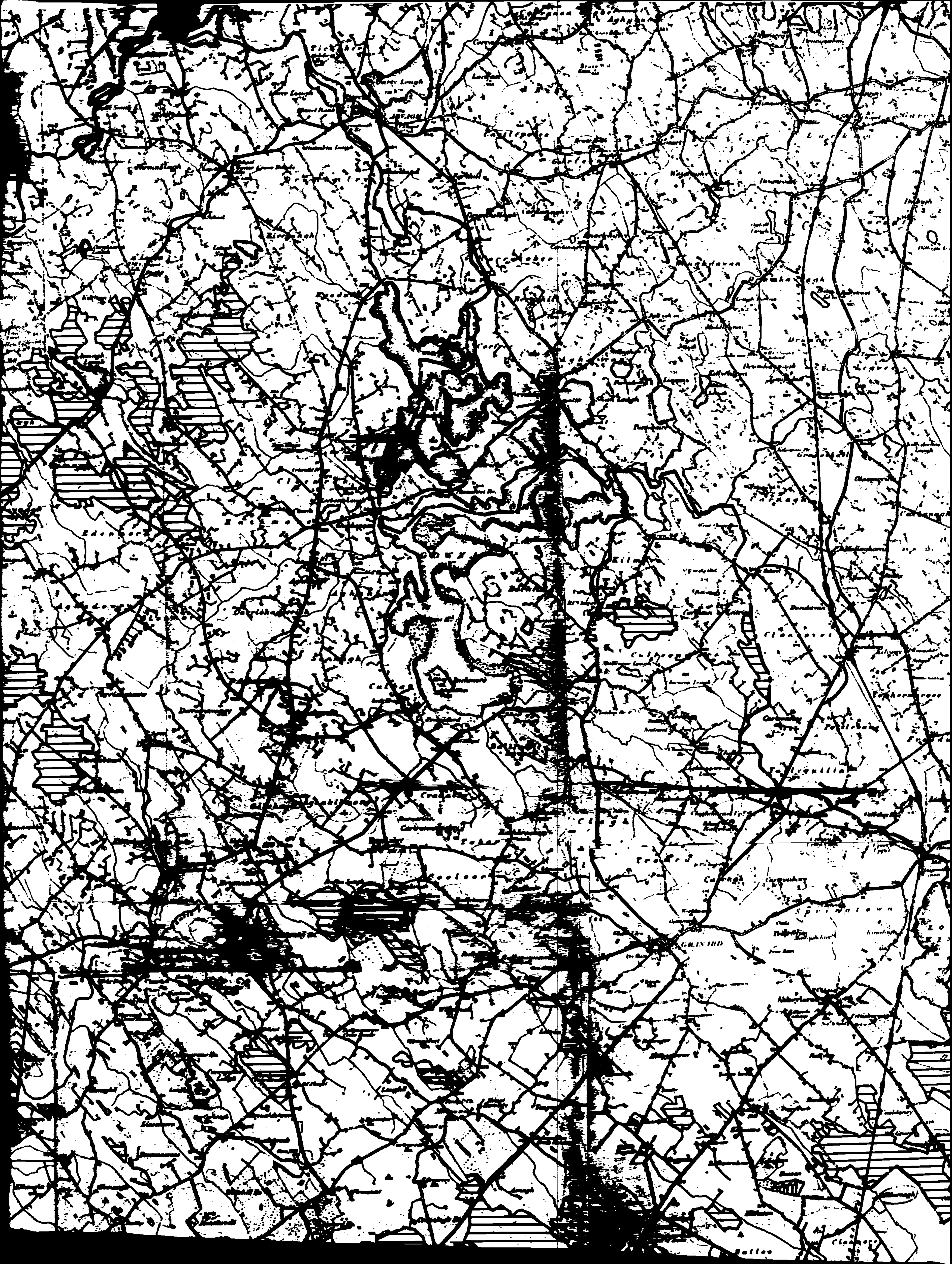


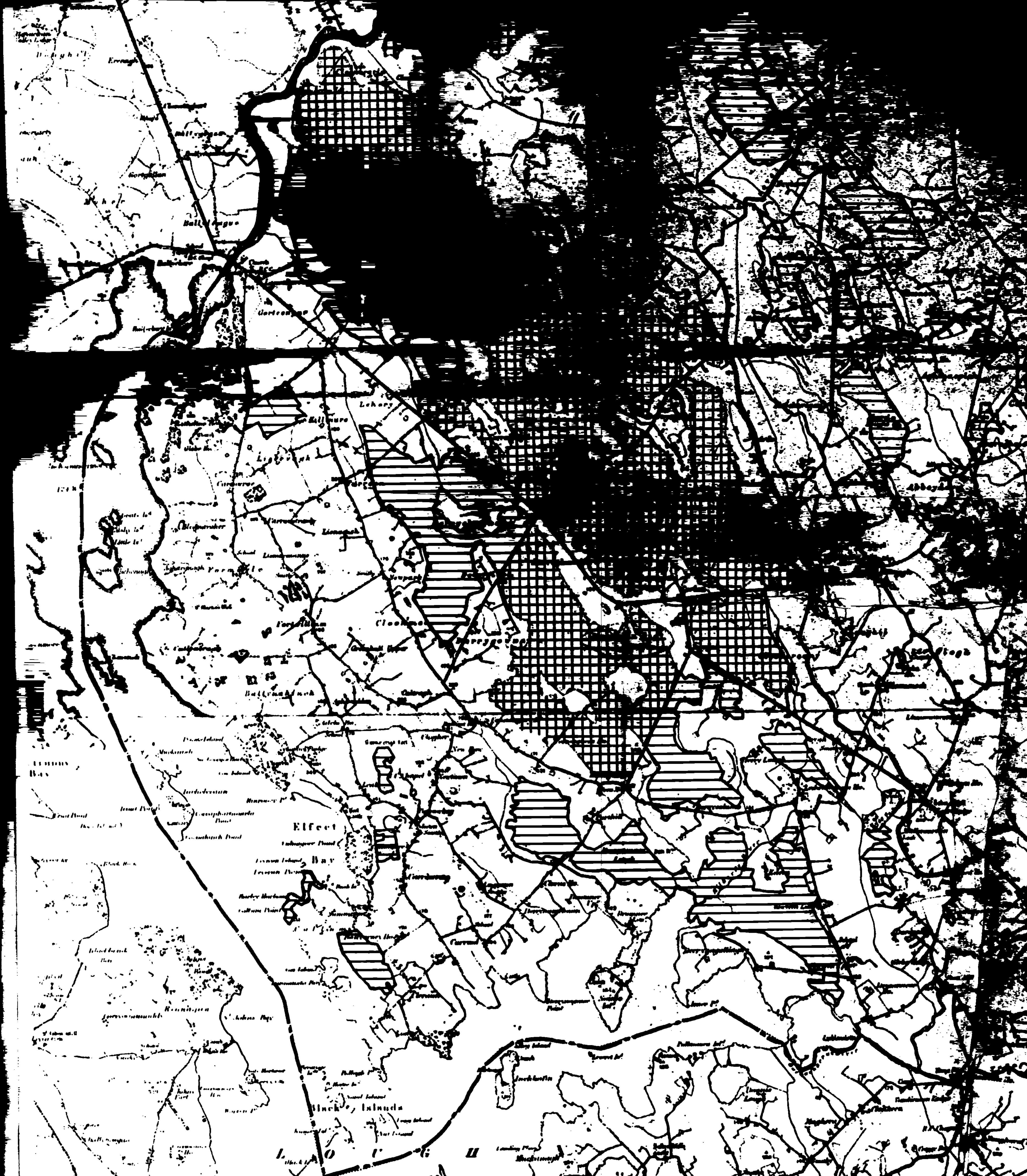


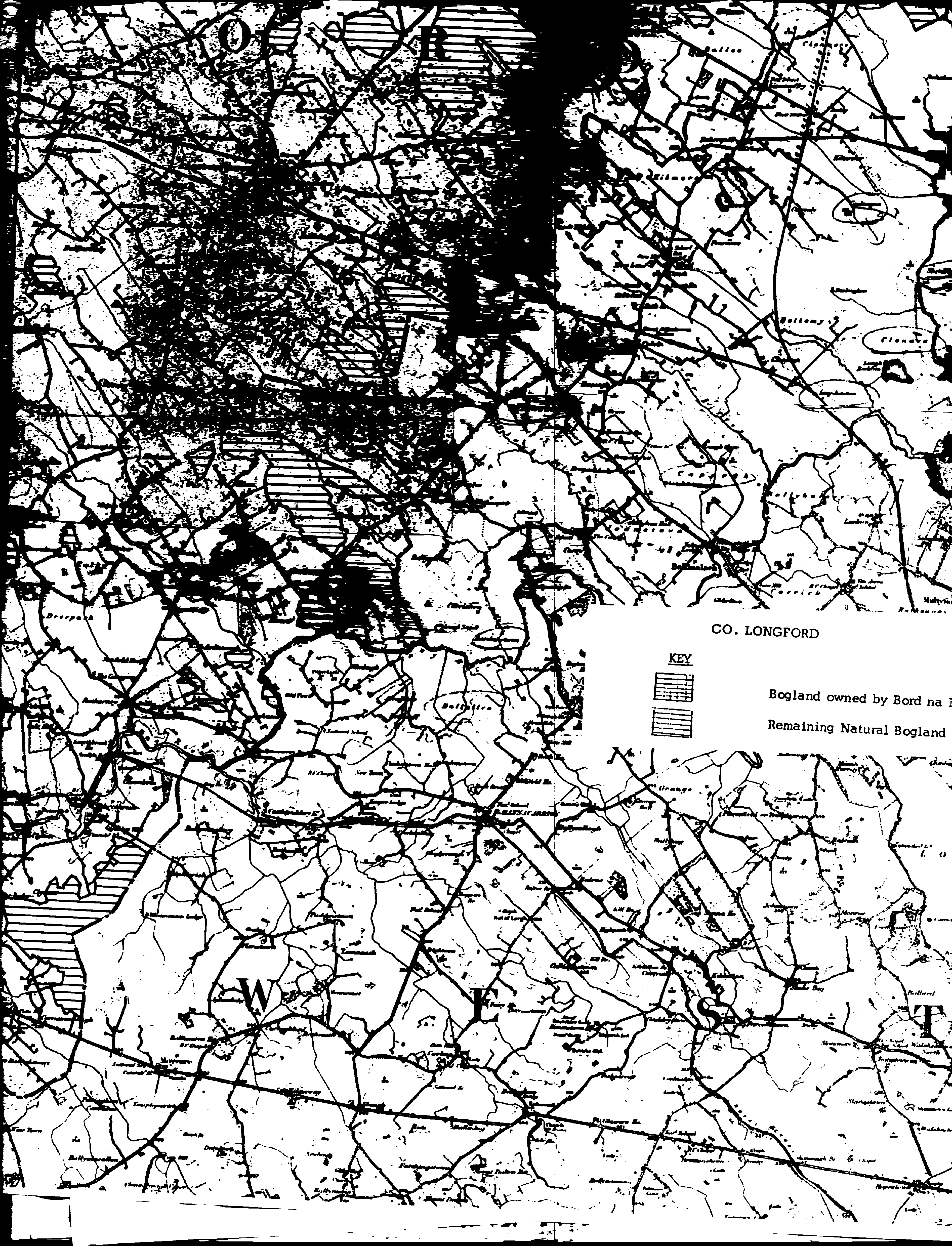
INTEREST — 2

Scale: 1 Inch to 1 Mile

Lough Bolderg
Lough Bolis
Drumharlow's Glebe
Drumgownagh
Annaghaine
Cloonshanbagh
Lamagh
Camlin River
LONGFORD


GRANARD
Springtown


Elfeet
Bay
Islands
L O U G H
R E E
Abbey



CO. LONGFORD

KEY

▦ Bogland owned by Bord na

▤ Remaining Natural Bogland