**Built Heritage**

**Antrim Coast & Glens AONB**

The Antrim Coast & Glens AONB was designated in 1988 under the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (Northern Ireland) Order. It is located along the Antrim Coast and Glens, and includes the area ofhighest scenic beauty, tranquil views, unusual natural features, and the rare wood crane’s-bill at Feystown. There are three Special Areas of Conservation within the AONB, and these are internationally important and are protected at European level. Rathlin Island is the only Special Protection Area within the AONB. These are breeding bird sites recognized by the UK government as having the most threatened habitats and species in Europe. Within the AONB, Carnlough and Glenariff are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). These sites are considered to be of national importance.

**Natural Heritage**

The Antrim Coast and Glens AONB is a long and rugged area ofland which is known for its scenic beauty, tranquil views, unusual natural features, and the rare wood crane’s-bill at Feystown. The Antrim Coast and Glens AONB has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is internationally important and is protected at European level. There are three Special Areas of Conservation within the AONB, and these are internationally important and are protected at European level. Rathlin Island is the only Special Protection Area within the AONB. These are breeding bird sites recognized by the UK government as having the most threatened habitats and species in Europe. Within the AONB, Carnlough and Glenariff are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). These sites are considered to be of national importance.

**Further Information**

For further information on the Antrim Coast and Glens AONB, contact:

**Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust**

Tilly McDaid, 16 High Street, Antrim.

Tel: 028 4772 2030

Email: nieainfo@doeni.gov.uk

Web: www.ni-environment.gov.uk/index.htm

Tel: 0845 302 0008

Email: info@ccght.org

Web: www.ccght.org

**Photographs:**

Tom McDonnell, Michael Scullion, NIEA, 1/6/88, KIDP, Mike Hurford, Pictorial Unit

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**Acknowledgements**

Carnlough: Tj Thornton, Michael Scullion. Glenariff Glen Wood Anemone: Anne McEn 

**Cultural Heritage**

**Heads spotted-oval**

The cliffs whilst comorants can often be seen diving and fishing from the rocks. Buoyard is one of the most popular areas to visit for the natural beauty of the coastline and the rare wood crane’s-bill at Feystown. The Antrim Coast and Glens AONB has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is internationally important and is protected at European level. Rathlin Island is the only Special Protection Area within the AONB. These are breeding bird sites recognized by the UK government as having the most threatened habitats and species in Europe. Within the AONB, Carnlough and Glenariff are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). These sites are considered to be of national importance.

**Built Heritage**

**Antrim Coast & Glens AONB**

The Antrim Coast & Glens AONB was designated in 1988 under the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (Northern Ireland) Order. It includes Rathlin Island, the Glens of Antrim and the coastal area between Ballygally and Glengormley. This area contains some of the most beautiful and scenic landscapes in Northern Ireland.

The area is dominated by the Antrim Plateau, rising to over 500m and cut by fast flowing rivers. The area is home to a rich variety of habitats including blanket bog, heathland, hill pasture, and farmland. The area also has a rich variety of wildlife including many rare and threatened species.

**Geology**

The geology of the Antrim Coast & Glens is dominated by tertiary basalts which formed part of the northern part of the British Isles. Rocks of this age are found throughout the area, especially in the north-eastern and north-western parts of the AONB. The area includes a variety of rock types including basalt, sandstone, shale, and limestone. The area also has a rich variety of geology including the Antrim Plateau, rising to over 500m and cut by fast flowing rivers.

The Antrim Plateau is a harsh and open landscape. Farmland is particularly important for biodiversity, with many rare and threatened species. The area also has a rich variety of wildlife including many rare and threatened species.

The Antrim Coast and Glens AONB has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is internationally important and is protected at European level. Rathlin Island is the only Special Protection Area within the AONB. These are breeding bird sites recognized by the UK government as having the most threatened habitats and species in Europe. Within the AONB, Carnlough and Glenariff are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). These sites are considered to be of national importance.

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