

Site Name: Crug-yr-eryr Quarry

Grid Ref: SN 420503

RIGS Category: Educational & Scientific

Earth Science Category: Quaternary & Geomorphology

Geology 1:50,000:

RIGS Statement of Interest:

This site provides excellent exposure of the 3D architecture of an ice-contact, sub-aqueous landform (deposited underwater in contact with a glacier margin) and is one of the few locations of good exposure of glacial sediments (up to 20 m of sand and gravels deposited by glacial meltwaters) between the Cardigan Bay coast and the Afon Teifi.

Because of its location near the confluence of the Irish Sea Glacier and Welsh ice during the last ice age, Crug-yr-eryr Quarry has considerable potential, through detailed study, to provide key information concerning the spatial and stratigraphical relationships between these ice masses. The sediments at Crug-yr-eryr contain erratics clearly transported southwards at some time by a glacier that flowed down the Irish Sea.

An ice wedge cast developed in the top of the sequence at Crug-yr-eryr provides evidence for at least seasonal freezing and cracking of the ground surface, and may have formed when the ground was perennially frozen (permafrost).

Surveyed by: N. Ross