

Site Name: Cwmystwyth Old Dam

Grid Ref: SN 84327562

RIGS Category: Scientific

Earth Science Category: Structural Geology

1:50,000 Geological: BGS Sheet 179, Rhayader

RIGS Statement of Interest:

This Afon Ystwyth stream section is about 100 m in length and is bisected by a 3-4 m thick stone dam formerly used by the mining industry in Cwmystwyth. Two anticlinal folds are perfectly exposed in 3 dimensions in both banks of the stream, one either side of the dam, and are separated by a syncline that is traversed by the dam. These structures are excellent examples of the outcrop-scale upright folds developed in western Central Wales. Moreover, they are transected by cleavage that cuts across them in a clockwise sense, providing some of the evidence that the regional deformation in this part of Wales involved a component of N-S shear as well as horizontal E-W compression. These structures are part of a RIGS network of transected folds in Central Wales that are suitable for studying the still uncertain processes and regional significance of transection.

Surveyed by: W.R. Fitches