

**Site Name: Bank Road Cutting, Pentre'r beirdd      Grid Ref: SJ 19041429**

**RIGS Category:** Educational & Scientific

**Earth Science Category:** Igneous and Silurian (Wenlock) Stratigraphy

**Geology 1:50,000:** BGS Sheet 151, Welshpool

**RIGS Statement of Interest:**

The Bank Road Cutting exposes mid Silurian volcanic rocks, erupted from a nearby centre, which are exceptionally rare in the Welsh Basin. The only other known example, probably slightly younger, is exposed in The Moat Quarry nearly 30 km to the SSW (RIGS 17; CWP/ign 2). In addition, the shales in lower parts of the section contain large ovoid calcareous nodules produced by chemical changes soon after sediment deposition. A highly unusual feature is that the nodular shales underwent slumping and dewatering before becoming fully consolidated, concentrating the nodules in a muddy matrix that include volcanic ash. The association of ash and slumping may imply destabilisation of the sediment by a combination of volcanic and earthquake activity in this part of the Welsh Basin.

**Surveyed by:** R. Cave