

Site Name: Derwenlas Coach Road Grid Reference: SN 7196 9912

RIGS Category: Scientific

Earth Science Category: Silurian (Llandovery) Stratigraphy

Geology 1:50,000: BGS Sheet 149, Cadair Idris

RIGS Statement of Interest:

The RIGS comprises a 100 m long road cutting that links several tiny quarries beside the former coach road which rises SW out of Derwenlas. It includes the 37 m thick type section through the early Silurian Derwenlas Formation as defined by Jones & Pugh (1916) and the lower part of the overlying Cwmsymlog Formation. The importance of this locality is highlighted by its restudy in the Aberystwyth memoir of the British Geological Survey (Cave & Haines, 1986, p.80 and Figure 38). The section is a key bio- and litho-stratigraphic site in the Welsh Basin, containing more than 30 graptolite species that enable the precise stratigraphic age of these rocks to be determined and to provide a reference section with which other successions can be compared.

Surveyed by: W.R. Fitches & R. Cave