

Site Name: Dole-y-Coed

Grid Reference: SN 8675 4715

RIGS Category: Scientific

Earth Science Category: Ordovician (Llandeilian) Igneous

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

RIGS Statement of Interest:

This easily accessible RIGS provides an example of either basalt lava extruded from a mid Ordovician volcano or a small intrusion emplaced into sedimentary rocks at that time. According to Davis et al. (1983), this is pillow lava, comprising bulbous masses formed by basalt flowing into water. On the 2005 map of the British Geological Survey, however, the locality is shown as dolerite, a rock that was injected into older rocks. One interest of the site, therefore, is the origin of the rocks. The rocks contain clearly visible phenocrysts (large crystals) of feldspar and spherical gas bubbles (vesicles) now filled with minerals (amygdales). The site is included in one of the itineraries described in the Powys geological guide (Mackie, 1993).

Surveyed by: W.R. Fitches