

Site Name: Fan Gyhirych Grid Reference: SN 887194

RIGS Category: Aesthetic, Educational & Scientific

Earth Science Category: Quaternary & Geomorphology

Geology 1:50,000: BGS Sheet 231, Merthyr Tydfil

RIGS Statement of Interest:

Paradoxically, it is the lack of prominent morainic ridges rather than their presence that marks this site as important for interpreting the conditions required to produce moraines in the Brecon Beacons during the Younger Dryas Stadial (cold, relatively brief episode with local glaciation). The site comprises a well formed cirque depression with a north-easterly aspect, which would lead one to suppose that it is highly suited to glacier formation. Why this was apparently not the case makes this site of considerable importance for interpreting palaeoclimate.

Surveyed by: R.A. Shakesby