

Site Name: Gelli Goch Cutting

Grid Reference: SN 7295 9881

RIGS Category: Educational & Scientific

Earth Science Category: Ordovician (Ashgill) Stratigraphy & Structural Geology

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

RIGS Statement of Interest:

The site is a c. 150 m long cutting along the SE side of the A 487 trunk road about 3 km (1.5 miles) SW of Machynlleth. Here the late Ordovician Bryn-glâs mudstones and sandstones have been severely disturbed by spectacular pre-consolidation slumps, slides and pore-water ejection structures. These structures are interpreted to be a result of sediment instability associated with dramatic global sea-level falls and rises caused by the short-lived Hirnantian glacial events.

The site, noticeable even to motorists passing at high speed, is easily accessible and has excellent educational potential..

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