

Site Name: Llananno Central

Grid Reference: SO 095746

RIGS Category: Educational & Scientific

Earth Science Category: Silurian (Wenlock) Stratigraphy and Structure

Geology 1:50,000: BGS Sheet Newtown

RIGS Statement of Interest:

This road-cutting is one of three RIGS in the Llananno area that collectively provide an important section through the middle Silurian strata that were deposited near the southeastern margin of the Welsh Basin. Again collectively, the three RIGS reveal a profile through a major, southeastward overturned fold that may mark a step at the basin margin, the Tywi Lineament, which became reversed during regional compression. This structure, here referred to as the Llananno Monocline, may be the SW continuation of the huge fold inferred near the Tan Y Foel Quarry RIGS.

This RIGS is distinguished from the other two near Llananno mainly because the beds here are inverted in the common limb of the Llananno Monocline whereas they retain their original orientation at the other sites. The rocks exposed here, belonging to the Penstrowed Grits Formation, are mostly turbidites which have been the subject of recent investigations by researchers at Cambridge University, and are described in a well-known geological field guide (location 5, Dimberline & Woodcock, 1993). A major attraction of the cutting is that the bases of the sand turbidites, showing flute casts and other signs of current scouring, are easily seen and well-exposed because they are inverted.

Surveyed by: W.R. Fitches