

Site Name: Tregaron Moraine Grid Ref: SN 670611 to SN 682613

RIGS Category: Aesthetic, Educational & Scientific

Earth Science Category: Quaternary & Geomorphology

1:50,000 Geological: BGS Sheet 178, Llanilar

RIGS Statement of Interest:

The site is an E-W ridge that crosses the Teifi Valley c. 1.5 km north of Tregaron. It separates the hummocky topography around Tregaron from the flat area to the north; the Cors Caron raised bog National Nature Reserve. The ridge is interpreted as a moraine, formed of glacial debris deposited at the snout of a glacier some 16,000 to 15,000 years ago. The glacier flowed southward down the Teifi Valley probably during the Devensian period of the Ice Age. One early view, no longer widely accepted, was that the landform is part of the end-moraine that marks the southern limit of glaciation in Britain. The moraine is fundamentally important to the geomorphological and biological evolution of this region, largely because it held back a major lake that occupied the Cors Caron area after the glacier melted. In the last 12,000 years or so, Cors Caron has evolved by the silting up of the lake and development of complex vegetation and animal systems, which accompanied climate change and human modification. Without the moraine, Cors Caron would not exist.

Surveyed by: W.R.Fitches