



South Wales RIGS Group Site Record RIGS Description

SECTION A

General	South Wales
Site Name: Llandegfedd Reservoir	File Number: Site_RSK_15
RIGS Number: 701	Surveyed by: South Wales Geologists Association
Grid Reference: ST 3280 9850	Date of Visit: 24 th July 2010
RIGS Category: Scientific, Educational	Date Registered:
Earth Science Category: Stratigraphic, Palaeontological	Owner: Unknown Planning Authority: Monmouthshire County Council
Site Nature: Roadside cutting	Documentation prepared by: Rhian Kendall
Unitary Authority: Monmouthshire County Council	Documentation last revised: 7 th March 2012
OS 1:50,000 Sheet: 171	Photographic Record: Attached
OS 1:25,000 Explorer Sheet: 152	
BGS 1:50,000 Sheet: E249	
RIGS Statement of Interest:	
<p>This site is on the eastern edge of the dam at Llandegfedd Reservoir. Although very overgrown at present, it is an excellent locality for collecting fossils. There is parking very close by and the ready availability of fossil material here makes this a good place to teach groups about palaeontology and enthuse people about the subject of geology.</p>	

Geological setting/context:

This site is on the eastern edge of the dam at Llandegfedd Reservoir. Although very overgrown at present, it is an excellent locality for collecting fossils. There is parking very close by and the ready availability of fossil material here makes this a good place to teach groups about palaeontology and enthuse people about the subject. Prior to this site becoming overgrown (within the last 5 years), the scree slope here was an easy place to find fossils.

The section, either side of the gate exposes Upper Forest Beds which are the local equivalent of the Lower Bringewood Formation (Ludlovian age). The Upper Forest Beds here are greenish-grey, slightly calcareous siltstones which are thinly bedded. This unit is sometimes decalcified to a fossiliferous rottenstone. Elsewhere in the inlier, the unit includes nodules and thin bands of impure limestones. The Upper Forest beds represent a transition between the muddier Lower Forest Beds below and the overlying Lower Llanbadoc Beds which are harder and more calcareous.

The lowermost parts of the Upper Forest beds are marked by abundant large fossils. These include brachiopods, bivalves, trilobites and gastropods, including strophomenids and sphaerirhynchia. Chonetes is also known from this location. Detailed lists of fossils found in the Upper Forest Beds are given by Walmsley 1958.

This site is very overgrown and degraded and would benefit from work to clear vegetation.







References:

SQUIRRELL, H C and DOWNING, R A. 1969. Geology of the South Wales Coalfield Part 1 The Country Around Newport (Mon). Memoir of the Geological Survey of Great Britain.

WALMSLEY, V G. 1958. The Geology of the Usk Inlier (Monmouthshire). Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society. V114

WALMSLEY, V G. 1982. In: The Silurian inliers of the south-eastern Welsh Borderland. Lawson, J D, Curtis, M L K, Squirrell, H C, Tucker, E V and Walmsley, V G. Geologists' Association Guide No. 5.

SECTION B

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS: Please score Accessibility and Safety Red Amber or Green			
Accessibility:			X 
Comment:			
Safety:			X 
Comment:			
Conservation status: There are no known conservation designations of this RIGS			

OWNERSHIP/PLANNING CONTROL: Owner/tenant: Unknown Planning Authority: Monmouthshire County Council Planning status/constraints/opportunities: There are no known planning constraints or opportunities
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CONDITION, USE & MANAGEMENT: Present use: None Site condition: Poor Potential threats: Continued encroachment of vegetation Site Management: It is very important that this site is cleared of vegetation
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SITE DEVELOPMENT: Potential use (general): Potential use (educational): This site is very useful as educational locality. The ease of access and abundance of fossils make this is good place to enthuse people about geology
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Other comments:

Photographic Record



The site to the north of the gates at the east end of the dam.



Small section of Upper Forest beds hidden beneath vegetation



Upper Forest beds exposed to the South of the gate at the east end of the dam.