



## South Wales RIGS Group Site Record

### RIGS Description

**SECTION A**

General	South Wales
<b>Site Name:</b> Rosehill Quarry Community Park	<b>File Number:</b> Site_247_48
<b>RIGS Number:</b> 771	<b>Surveyed by:</b> Rhian and Andy Kendall
<b>Grid Reference:</b> SS 64409 93474	<b>Date of Visit:</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2012
<b>RIGS Category:</b> Scientific, educational	<b>Date Registered:</b>
<b>Earth Science Category:</b> Stratigraphic	Owner: City and County of Swansea Planning Authority: City and County of Swansea
<b>Site Nature:</b> Disused quarry	<b>Documentation prepared by:</b> Rhian Kendall
<b>Unitary Authority:</b> City and County of Swansea	<b>Documentation last revised:</b> Feb 2012
<b>OS 1:50,000:</b> 159	<b>Photographic Record:</b> Attached
<b>OS 1:25,000:</b> 156	
<b>BGS 1:50,000:</b> 247	
<p><b>RIGS Statement of Interest:</b></p> <p>The Rosehill Quarry Community Park is developed within a disused quarry which exploited thick sandstones of the Rhondda Member of the Pennant Sandstone Formation. The stone was used for building, probably within the local area.</p> <p>This site has been chosen as a RIGS as it is a fantastic educational resource within a park which is already managed for wildlife. It is recommended that if the faces were cleared of vegetation (in consultation with an ecologists as the park does support some rare fern species), the geological story would add extra interest to an already important site.</p>	

**Geological setting/context:**

Rosehill Quarry is a disused quarry which forms part of a community park with the Townhill area of the city of Swansea.

The quarry was worked in from the 1840's for building stone but by the 1920's the quarry was abandoned and overgrown. Since then the area has been used as a tennis club before again becoming overgrown. Since the late 1970's the area has been adopted by local residents and Swansea City Council for use as a "Public Open Space".

The quarry exploits thick sandstone units within the Rhondda Member of the Pennant Sandstone Formation.

The Pennant Sandstones are typically "grey-green, immature, feldspathic, lithic arenites". The Pennant Sandstone Formation is interpreted as "an alluvial braidplain system in which the sandstones were deposited in a network of rapidly shifting channels". The sediment source was to the south. The finer lithologies are floodplane deposits. The mudstones were deposited in lake conditions and coals formed from peats which accumulated in flood plain lakes and mires. (Barclay 2011).







The Rhondda Member is about 300m thick in the Swansea area. In the Quarry, the faces are up to approx up to 10m tall and show channels and cross bedding as well as impressions of fossil tree trunks. Carbonaceous fragments are common, especially within foresets of cross bedded units.

**References:**

Barclay, W J. 2011. Geology of the Swansea District – a brief explanation of the geological map. Sheet Explanation of the British Geological Survey. 1:50 000 Sheet 247 Swansea (England and Wales).

Interpretation Panel at the site

**SECTION B**

<b>PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS:</b> Please score Accessibility and Safety Red Amber or Green			
<b>Accessibility:</b>			X 
Comment:			
<b>Safety:</b>			X 
Comment:			
<b>Conservation status:</b> None known			

<b>OWNERSHIP/PLANNING CONTROL:</b>	
<b>Owner/tenant:</b> City and County of Swansea	
<b>Planning Authority:</b> City and County of Swansea	
<b>Planning status/constraints/opportunities:</b> Public Open Space	

<b>CONDITION, USE &amp; MANAGEMENT:</b>
<b>Present use:</b> Community Parkland and public open space
<b>Site condition:</b> Slightly overgrown in places
<b>Potential threats:</b> Becoming obscured by vegetation
<b>Site Management:</b> Recommend that faces are tidied up in consultation with ecologist to ensure biodiversity interest is also maintained

<b>SITE DEVELOPMENT:</b>
<b>Potential use (general):</b>
<b>Potential use (educational):</b> This site is already part of a “Community Park” and used by local group, making this an excellent resource for education about geology and a very accessible site.

<b>Other comment</b>
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### Photographic Record

The following photographs illustrate the overgrown quarry faces in the quarry, exposing Rhondda Member Sandstones.







**Annotated Sketch**