

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

ABERCRIBAN QUARRIES

Date of Notification: 1989, 1997

National Grid Reference: SO 064123/SO 064127

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 160
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 01SE

Site Area: 1.3 ha

Description:

Abercriban Quarries comprise two small disused quarries situated to the east of Pontsticill Reservoir, north of Merthyr Tydfil. The site is of special interest for the rock exposures of the Grey Grit Formation of the Upper Old Red Sandstone, which include the type section.

The Upper Old Red Sandstone in South Wales (outside 'Pembrokeshire') is a thick sequence of fluvial, and possibly beach sandstones, subsequently transgressed by the marine Lower Limestone Shales of the Lower Carboniferous. These sections are important for comparisons that can be made with the Grey Grit sequence elsewhere in South Wales. It shows the local variability of the Upper Old Red Sandstone environments, allows comparisons with the thicker Upper Old Red Sandstone of Pembroke (Skinkle Sandstone) and north Devon, and shows the pattern of the local coastline in Upper Old Red Sandstone times.

Remarks:

This site lies within the Brecon Beacons National Park.

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