

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

**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION**

**CARMARTHENSHIRE**

**YDW VALLEY & FRON ROAD  
GEOLOGICAL EXPOSURES**

**Date of Notification:** 1980, 1986

**National Grid Reference:** Ydw Valley SN 748299, SN 753309, SN 757309  
& SN 762308

Fron Road SN 775323 - SN 776333

**O.S. Maps** 1:50,000 Sheet number: 146 or 160  
1:25,000 Sheet number: SN 72 and SN 73

**Site Area:** 8 ha

**Description:**

This is a composite site consisting of five separate exposures.

**Ydw Valley**

The four sites here include important sections in strata of the Llandovery Series, here in its type area. These lower Silurian rocks have been the subject of study for more than one hundred and fifty years. Their stratigraphy and shelly faunas have been studied in detail in recent years, and the sections were used to define the Idwian and Fronian stages of the Llandovery, and include the type section for the Goleugoed Formation. These are historically important sections spanning the Rhuddanian and Aeronian stages of the Llandovery Series.

**Fron Road**

This locality's old quarry and roadside exposures show rocks of Llandovery age in the historic type area for this division of the Silurian Period. The site includes sections in the Coldbrook, Rhydings, Wormwood and Cerig formations, totalling more than 400 metres (1312 feet) of strata. Marine faunas are dominated by brachiopods, including *Eocoelia*, and a moderately diverse microflora of acritarchs has been described. The lower boundary of the Telychian Stage of the Llandovery Series has been placed within this sequence. This is a key locality for Silurian stratigraphic studies in the historic type area for the Llandovery Series.

**Remarks:**

Part of one of the exposures (Fron Road) is within the Brecon Beacons National Park.

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