CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

SWANSEA LANGLAND BAY (ROTHERSLADE)

Date of Notification: 1996

National Grid Reference: SS 613871

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 159

1:25,000 Sheet number: SS 68

Site Area: 7 ha

Description:

At Langland Bay (Rotherslade), two kilometres west of Mumbles Head on the South Gower peninsula, a series of well exposed sections records the best evidence available for the limit of Late Devensian glaciation on east Gower. Ipswichian raised beach sediments occur near the base of the exposures and are overlain by head and glacial deposits. The interpretation of these sediments is crucial both to the understanding of Late Pleistocene events and to the reconstruction of the Devensian ice margin in the area. The sections at Langland Bay provide contrasting evidence to that at Hunts Bay and Western and Eastern Slade which demonstrate ice-free conditions during the Devensian. The precise origin of the glacial sediments is unresolved and adds to the interest of the site.