

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

LLANFAWR QUARRIES, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

Date of Notification: 1954, 1989

National Grid Reference: SO 065617

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 147
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 06

Site Area: 1.3 ha

Description:

Geological:

These disused quarries expose highly fossiliferous Llandeilo-Caradoc shales, siltstones and mudstones intruded by dolerite. Up to thirty species of graptolites (including the zonally important species *Nemograptus gracilis* and six species of trilobites (including the zonally important *Ogygiocaris buchi* have been recorded from this site, as well as species of brachiopods, nautiloids and conularids. This site is extremely important in demonstrating faunal variation in the *N. gracilis* Biozone of the Llandeilo and in interpreting Llandeilo-Caradoc palaeoenvironments.

Biological:

The vegetation of the slopes of the quarry and cliff areas is very variable in composition, dependent upon base-status. The more acid areas are species-poor and typically support a good population of foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*. However, local areas of grassland are relatively base-rich, with herbs such as wild strawberry *Fragaria vesca* and the occasional primrose *Primula vulgaris*. The most interesting species-rich areas occur on dry thin-soiled areas of mineral flushing. In such locations herbs include wild thyme *Thymus drucei*, lesser trefoil *Trifolium dubium*, mouse-eared hawkweed *Hieracium pilosella* and common whitlowgrass *Erophila verna*. A feature of particular interest is the occurrence of small populations of the uncommon maiden pink *Dianthus deltoides*.

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