

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

NEATH PORT TALBOT

**EARLSWOOD ROAD CUTTING AND
FERRYBOAT INN QUARRIES**

Date of Notification: 1965, 1987, 1997

National Grid Reference: SS728946 - SS 732939

O.S. Maps 1:50,000 Sheet number: 170
1:10,000 Sheet number: SS 79 SW

Site Area: 6.97 ha

Description:

This site consists of roadside cuttings and quarry exposures located on a hillside west of the River Neath near to its mouth, between Port Talbot and Neath.

This site is of special scientific interest for its exposures of late Carboniferous rocks which afford the best available sections through the Carboniferous Rhondda Beds, in a deltaic facies. They show exceptionally well developed sedimentary structures, in particular large-scale channels, and also the upward - fining cyclicity of the sedimentation, which is characteristic of such deltaic sediments. This section is of outstanding interest for understanding the pattern of sedimentation in South Wales during the late Westphalian, particularly how the environment changed following the uplift of the landmass to the south of the coalfield during mid - Westphalian C times. A nationally important site for interpreting Westphalian geological history.