


Geology field studies from Llyn to Plynlimon

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Cover illustration Gwna mélange outcrop at Uwchmynydd at the tip of the Lley peninsula. This chaotic assemblage of blocks of limestone, sandstone and dolomite in a muddy matrix was produced by slumping from a continental shelf into a subducting trench on the margins of the Avalonian microcontinent in Cambrian times.

Title page illustration Proximal turbidite grit and quartz conglomerate sequence in the Lower Cambrian Barmouth Grit formation at Garn, Barmouth. These grits represent deeper water channel deposits below a marine slope, produced by faulting within the Meguma terrane block.

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Contents

	Introduction	1
1	Stratigraphy and plate tectonic models	5
2	Geological processes	20
3	Monian of the Lleyn peninsula	42
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Penrhyn Nefyn• Porth Dinllaen• Sarn• Porth Colmon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Porth Iago to Porth Oer• Porth Orion• Uwchmynydd• Porth Felen to Porth Meudwy
4	The Rhinog mountains	66
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dolwen• Cwm Bychan and the Roman Steps• Moel Ysgyfarnogod	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cwm Mynach• Cefn Cam
5	The Mawddach estuary and Ardudwy	83
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barmouth• Hafotty mines• Foel Ispri	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friog and Fairbourne• Ardudwy• Llanfair
6	St Tudwal's peninsula	101
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trwyn Carreg-y-tir• Trwyn Cilan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Porth Ceiriad
7	The Arfon Basin	111
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nantlle• Moel Tryfan• Rhyd-Ddu	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Llyn Padarn• Dinorwig quarry
8	The Rhobell volcanic centre	129
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rhobell Fawr• Rhobell y Big	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Glasdir• Cerniau
9	Coed y Brenin	144
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Precipice Walk• Ganllwyd and the Afon Gamlan• Afon Mawddach in Coed y Brenin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hermon• Abergeirw• Pont y Gain
10	Cader Idris	167
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cregennen• Gwynant valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Llyn y Gafr and Llyn y Gader• Cwm Cau
11	The Aran mountains	186
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moel Offrwm• Pared yr Ychain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cwm Cywarch• Craig y Benglog
12	Arenig	200
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allt Lwyd• Moel Llyfnant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arenig Fawr
13	Ordovician of the Lleyn peninsula	213
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trefor and Nant Gwrtheyrn• Llanbedrog• Mynydd Penarfynydd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rhiw manganese mine• Porth Ysgo• Aberdaron

14	Moel Hebog		234
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Llwyd Mawr • Cwm Ystradllyn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moel Hebog • Moel yr Ogof 	
15	Yr Arddu and Llyn Gwynant		250
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr Arddu • Aberglaslyn and Cwm Bychan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Llyn Dinas 	
16	The Vale of Ffestiniog		264
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penrhyndeudraeth • Rhyd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moel Ystradau 	
17	Blaenau Ffestiniog		279
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moelwyn mountains • Blaenau Ffestiniog 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manod • Cwm Penmachno 	
18	Slate quarrying around Corris		295
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryneglwys • Dolgoch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corris • Aberllefenni 	
19	The Dovey Valley		307
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennal • Melin Llyn y Pair • Cwmyrhaiadr • Glandyfi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cwm Einion • Bwlch Glas • Craigypistyll 	
20	Plynlimon		321
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glaslyn • Nant y Moch • Hyddgen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carn Owen • Rheidol gorge 	
21	The Mid Wales coast		339
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borth • Clarach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberystwyth • Morfa Bychan 	
22	Lead mining in Mid-Wales		353
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castell • Cwmystwyth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pontrhydygroes • Frongoch 	
23	The Dolgellau gold belt		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gwynfynydd • Clogau 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vigma • Cwm Prysor 	
24	Discussion and summary		

References

Glossary of geological terms

Preface

North West Wales exhibits a great variety of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, and plays a key role in determining the plate tectonic history of southern Britain from late Precambrian to Devonian times. Geological field studies in the region take us to many beautiful and remote locations, from ancient forests to spectacular rock outcrops on mountain crags and along the rocky coast and cliffs.

For a number of years we have conducted geology field courses based in the area, and have compiled this book to encourage geology students and visitors to explore this fascinating part of Wales. We have tried to provide excursions which combine important geological observations with enjoyable walks through memorable scenery.

Many individuals have contributed to the material in this book. In particular, we would like to thank:

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