

THE WREKIN AREA, SHROPSHIRE

Leader:- P. H. Speed

Sunday, 3rd July 1966

A party of 26 members and friends were conveyed by coach from Nottingham to the Forest Glen Pavilion (SJ 638094), where they were joined by those who had travelled by private car, some six in number.

The purpose of the meeting was to study the relationship between the Pre-Cambrian of the area and the adjoining Cambrian and Carboniferous beds

The ascent of The Wrekin was made from Forest Glen and the faulted junction of the Uriconian (Pre-Cambrian) and Cambrian Quartzite demonstrated; later the unconformable nature of this junction was observed as the path to Wrekin Cottage (SJ 637089) was climbed.

Between Wrekin Cottage and the summit of The Wrekin, a variety of Uriconian volcanic rocks was noted, including pyroclastics, dolerites and flow-banded rhyolites. The route from the summit to Banks Lane via Little Hill (SJ 619076) enabled the unconformity between the Uriconian and Cambrian Quartzite to be observed on the south side of The Wrekin area.

Walking westwards along Banks Lane, near The Spout (SJ 625071), some of the more energetic members of the party ascended Harper's Dingle (SJ 634073) to see the succession in the Pentamerus Beds of the Upper Valentian, noting particularly the calcareous conglomerate with well rounded Uriconian pebbles.

Between Little Wenlock and Maddocks Hill the outcrop of Carboniferous Limestone, with a layer of basalt, was observed, together with its striking unconformity with the Cambrian Quartzite.

In Maddocks Hill Quarry (SJ 645085), where the intrusive camptonite has been worked, the Shineton Shales (Tremadocian) have been metamorphosed by this intrusion.

Returning to Forest Glen, an inspection was made of the adjoining quarry, Uriconian agglomerate consisting of tuff and rhyolite pebbles in a tuffaceous matrix; it was noted that two dolerite dykes traversed the agglomerate.

After tea in The Pavilion the party visited the Cambrian Quartzite exposure opposite Buckatree Hall (SJ 641097); the quartzite here includes Uriconian fragment.

The return to Nottingham was made via Wellington and Uttoxeter.

P. H. S.

REFERENCES

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