

Cumbria RIGS Group

Cumbria RIGS Group is a voluntary geological conservation group working to record and look after important geological sites.



GREENHAUME ROAD CUTTING RIGS

The A595 Greenhaume bypass has cut through the Skiddaw Group, the High Haume and Kirkley Bank Formations of the Dent Group, and the Low Furness Basal Beds of Lower Carboniferous age.

The road cutting is at grid reference SD 221754 (Landranger sheet 96).



Greenhaume road cutting

An outstanding and rare exposure of the rhyolitic High Haume Tuff. A volcanic sequence intruding the Skiddaw Group, it is younger than the Borrowdale Volcanic Group of the central Lake District fells.

The photograph was taken shortly after the exposure was cut. The area has now weathered and the formation does not stand out so clearly.



Close-up of the High Haume Tuff

Low Furness Basal Beds: the earliest Lower Carboniferous strata in south Cumbria. They infill an irregular topography, the formation is varied containing conglomerates, sandstones and limestones.



An exposure of conglomerate in the Low Furness Basal Beds at Greenhaume.



The boundary between the Ordovician strata (left) and Carboniferous strata (right).

