



Variscan Structures of South Wales and the Mendips (VAR-STR-WM)

Block Description

Visit <https://jncc.gov.uk/gcr-site-list>, for more information on GCR blocks and sites
For Precambrian and Structural Geology GCR block descriptions and GCR site lists,
visit <https://jncc.gov.uk/gcr-blocks-precambrian-and-structural-geology>

Introduction

The GCR sites selected for this GCR Block represent a major episode of Earth history that occurred as a result of the 'Variscan Orogeny', which was a period of mountain building and continental collision that began in the Devonian Period, which lasted from 417 to 354 million years ago (Ma) and continued through Carboniferous (354–292 Ma) time, as represented by geological features present in south Wales and the Mendips; geological structures of south-west England produced by the same events are covered by a separate GCR, for both geographical and geological reasons (see **Variscan Structures of South-West England (VAR-STR-SW)**).