

Rouken Glen park: paths through the Carboniferous!



Where is this?

The park lies in the southern part of the Glasgow conurbation in East Renfrewshire at Rouken Glen Rd, G46 7UG. See access info at www.rouken Glen park.co.uk

What will you see there?

In the park you can see sandstone and other sedimentary rocks laid down in river deltas, swamps and sea in the Carboniferous period, around 325 million years ago. The sandstone is clearly seen at the steps by the waterfall on Auldhouse Burn. This type of sandstone was an important 19th century building material. The site shows impacts of ice that covered the land about 11,000 years ago. For example, you can see scratch marks on flat rocks by the pond. The evidence of different depositional conditions such as sea level and climate in Carboniferous times is shown in mudstone and limestone rock layers in the gorge, the layering known as the Orchard Beds. This rock sequence is an important geological feature and so part of the park is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Fossils from the Orchard Beds found in the burn are displayed in the pavilion (see opening times on park site).

Find out more: A geological trail leaflet is available at <https://geologyglasgow.org.uk/sites/rouken-glen/>