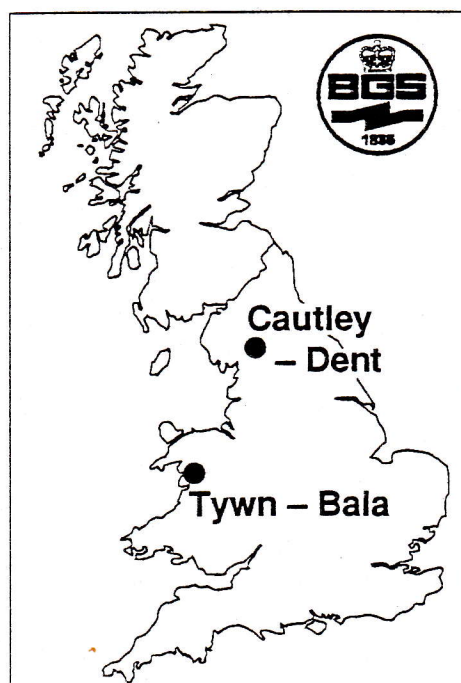


ACRITARCHS FROM THE ASHGILL SERIES (ORDOVICIAN) OF THE UK

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Recent and continuing investigations on the acritarch biostratigraphy of the Ashgill Series of the UK is yielding encouraging results. Initial data from 107 localities in the type area of the Ashgill Series at Cautley and Dent in Northern England indicate the presence of common though poorly preserved acritarchs. Taxa include species of *Baltisphaeridium*, *Goniosphaeridium*, *Multiplicisphaeridium*, *Orthosphaeridium*, *Peteinosphaeridium*, *Stellechinatum* and *Veryhachium*. A recent study of 58 localities from three Ashgill

sections between Tywyn and Bala in North Wales has yielded poorly preserved acritarchs and rare chitinozoa. The assemblages include species of *Cheleutochroa*, *Diexallophasis*, *Exochoderma?*, *Helosphaeridium*, *Multiplicisphaeridium*, *Orthosphaeridium*, *Stellechinatum* and *Tylotopalla*. These new data are allowing progress to be made in the construction of an acritarch biostratigraphy for the Ashgill Series of the UK.