

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: CORNBROOK DINGLE

DISTRICT: South Shropshire

SITE REF: 15WN8

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified (Under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act) 1981 as amended

Local Planning Authority: SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, South Shropshire District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 602757, SO 603755 Area: 1.7 (ha.) 4.2 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 138 1:10,000: SO 67 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): – Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:
New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This is the type and best available exposure of the Cornbrook Sandstone Formation. This is the lowest deposit of Pennsylvanian age, part of the Upper Carboniferous, in the Cleve Hills Coalfield and is of interest since it shows how, at this point, sediments were deposited on the St. George's Land island for just a short time during the Pennsylvanian. The age of these strata has been the subject of some considerable debate, having been regarded at different times as late Devonian, Viséan or Namurian. However, a good fossil flora found at Cornbrook clearly proves that it is middle Westphalian in age, probably middle or upper Westphalian B. This is a highly significant site for understanding Westphalian geology in Britain.