

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE                      SITE NAME: ALVELEY GRINDSTONE QUARRY

DISTRICT: Bridgnorth                      SITE REF: 15WJ4

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, Bridgnorth District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 758848                      Area: 0.5 (ha.) 1.4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 138                      1:10,000: SO 78 SE

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 an important geological site providing exposures of red sandstones of the Keele formation of the late Carboniferous Period. The sandstones infill very large river channels with accumulations of shale fragments in the channel beds. Of particular interest is the presence of plant fossils, which have been interpreted as conifer remains. These deposits provide an important insight into the changing conditions in Britain towards the end of the Carboniferous Period, when the coal-forming swamps and deltas were giving way to the desert-like conditions of the Permian, as a result of the Variscan mountain building episode.