

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: EATON TRACK

DISTRICT: South Shropshire

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

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

National Grid Reference: SO 501900 Area: 2.1 (ha.) 5.19 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 137 1:10,000: SO 58 NW, SO 59 SW

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:
New site.

Reasons for Notification:

The banks of this sunken track provide important exposures of a sequence of mudstones and limestones, part of the Wenlock Series of rocks, of the Silurian System. This is an internationally important locality for geological study as it is now designated a standard or reference section for one of the 'Stages' (the Homerian) of the Silurian Period of geological history. The section also spans an important junction between two 'zones' (finer subdivisions) of the Silurian, which are defined by the changing make-up of diagnostic fossils known as graptolites. This zonal junction, used for accurate dating of the strata, is discernible world-wide and of key importance in comparing rock sequences internationally.