

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: COMLEY QUARRY

DISTRICT: Shrewsbury & Atcham

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

Local Planning Authority: SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SO 484962

Area: 2.023 (ha.) 5 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 137

1:10,000: SO 49 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1953

Date of Last Revision: 1963

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Part of the site is a reserve of the Shropshire Trust for Nature Conservation. Site boundary alteration extension.

Reasons for Notification:

This is one of Britain's most important geological and palaeontological sites, illustrating part of the Lower and Middle Cambrian rock sequence. The fossil faunas, particularly those of the Comley Limestones, are abundant and diverse and provide a British standard sequence with which other faunas can be compared. This locality is also historically important, having yielded the first British Lower Cambrian fossil to Lapworth, proving for the first time that rocks of this age are present in Britain and demonstrating their position relative to other Cambrian rocks. The faunas provide a basis for correlating the British Lower and Middle Cambrian succession with North America, Scandinavia and Central Europe.