

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: SHELVE CHURCH SECTION

DISTRICT: SOUTH SHROPSHIRE

SITE REF: 15WHQ

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 337990

Area: 0.31 (ha.) 0.76 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 137

1:10,000: SO 39 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1963

Date of Last Revision: 1963

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Boundary alteration (extension).

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This is a famous exposure of the Mytton Flags, of Lower Ordovician age. During this period of geological history, this area lay on the eastern edge of a deep ocean basin occupying most of Wales, whilst shallower 'shelf' seas extended eastwards over the Midlands. Fossil organisms characteristic of both deep and shallow marine environments can be found at this locality enabling detailed comparisons to be made between the two areas. These outcrops contain a more prolific mixed graptolite, trilobite and brachiopod fauna than can be found at any other comparable Shropshire site.