

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: TEMESIDE

DISTRICT: SOUTH SHROPSHIRE

SITE REP: 15W4D

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 519742

Area: 0.20 (ha.) 0.49 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 137

1:10,000: SO 57 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): –

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1992

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This site is a small section of river cliff running along the southern bank of the River Teme. The exposed rocks show a channel-fill within the mudstone and siltstone sequence of the Temeside Beds. This unusual sedimentary feature in these Silurian-aged rocks contains a diverse assemblage of fossil 'fish' fragments and larger specimens, which are extremely rare elsewhere. The cephalaspids *Thyestes salteri* and *Hemicyclaspis murchisoni* have been recorded from here, as well as several types of acanthodian spine and thelodonts. The site has received little collecting attention in the past, but recently heterostracan fragments, new species of acanthodian, and a graptolite have all been found here. This is a unique site for vertebrate studies with much potential for future research.