

COUNTY: DERBYSHIRE

SITE NAME: DUCKMANTON
RAILWAY CUTTING

DISTRICT: NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE

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

Local Planning Authority: DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, North East Derbyshire District Council

National Grid Reference: SK 423704

Area: 3.8 (ha.) 9.4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 120

1:10,000: SK 47 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1974

Date of Last Revision: 1974

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1984

Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The rock outcrops within this site provide rare and valuable exposures of a sequence of Coal Measures rocks, including coals, shales and sandstones, formed about 300 million years ago during the late Carboniferous Period of geological time. The rock sequence contains abundant fossil remains and of particular importance are layers rich in the remains of marine animals. These Marine Bands are used to date accurately rocks of this age and are of prime importance for the exploration and development of coal bearing rocks. One of the marine bands recognised here is of special interest since it marks the boundary between two of the three major divisions of the Coal Measures. Because of the high quality of the exposures the site has been proposed as the standard or reference locality for that boundary. This site is thus an internationally important geological locality exposing a vital time-marker in the Coal Measures sequence.