

County: Dorset **Site Name:** Sandford Lane Quarry

District: West Dorset

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

Local Planning Authority: West Dorset District Council; Dorset County Council;

National Grid Reference: ST 629178 **Area:** 0.77 (ha) 1.90 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 183 **1:10,000:** ST 61 NW

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990 **Date of Last Revision:** –

Other Information:

A new site. Site listed in “Geological Conservation Review”.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

An internationally important geological site. The limestones of the Inferior Oolite exposed at Sandford Lane have yielded faunas essential to Middle Jurassic stratigraphic studies. Sandford can be taken as the British standard for part of the Upper Bajocian *garantiana* Zone. It is also the most important locality for the Middle Bajocian *sauzei* and *laeviuscula* Zones. The majority of European ammonite records from these two Zones were based on collections from the Sandford quarry. This site shows one of the most important of British sedimentary sequences.