

COUNTY: KENT            SITE NAME: AYLESFORD PIT

DISTRICT: TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

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

Local Planning Authorities: TONBRIDGE & MAILING DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: TQ 730594            Area: 1.85 (ha.) 4.57 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 178, 188            1:10,000: TQ 75 NE

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990

**Description and Reasons for Notification:**

This pit, which dates back over a century, provides excellent exposures of fossiliferous Medway Terrace deposits overlying (Cretaceous) Folkestone Beds. In addition to numerous mammalian bones, the site has also yielded a wealth of Paleolithic artefacts. Although well known and often visited its geographical isolation has made precise correlation with the main Thames sequence uncertain. The remaining exposures at this, the most important Medway Pleistocene site, will continue to be of major interest and significance.