

COUNTY: KENT            SITE NAME: STURRY PIT

DISTRICT: CANTERBURY

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

Local Planning Authorities: CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: TR 174 606, TR 175 607      Area: 0.67 (ha.) 1.66 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 179

1:10,000: TR 16 SE

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990

Other Information: –

Reasons for Notification:

The Pleistocene gravels of Sturry, which belong to the 3rd Terrace of the Kentish Stour (= ? Boyn Hill Terrace of the Thames) have yielded numerous 'Middle Acheulian' hand axes. They provide an important comparison with the ? Early Acheulian industry from the nearby, and higher Fordwich gravel, and the interpretation of these two industries is critical for the development of Palaeolithic and Pleistocene Terrace chronologies in the Thames basin. Further work will be required before the true relationship between the Sturry gravels and the Thames Terrace sequence can be established, and the remaining deposits and exposures at Sturry are therefore of considerable geological significance.