

COUNTY: Norfolk

SITE NAME: WRETTON

DISTRICT: West Norfolk

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

Local Planning Authority: West Norfolk District Council

National Grid Reference: TL 685992

Area: 19.9 (ha) 49.1 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 143

1:10,560: TL 69 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): –

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

At Wretton a complex series of late Pleistocene (Ipswichian–Devensian) terrace deposits of the River Wissey have been exposed in the sides of a cut-off channel. The Devensian deposits are of unique interest because they record the most complete sequence of Early Devensian deposits containing stratigraphically useful pollen, molluscs, beetles and vertebrates, collectively making this a key stratigraphic locality.

Fluvial deposits here contain abundant fossil mammal remains. This assemblage includes wolf, arctic fox, bear, reindeer, bison and woolly rhinoceros making Wretton Britain's richest vertebrate locality of early Devensian age.