

COUNTY: Devon

SITE NAME: BRENT TOR

DISTRICT: West Devon

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

Local Planning Authority: Devon County Council, Dartmoor National Park Authority

National Grid Reference: SX 471804

Area: 6.7 (ha) 16.6 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 191

1:10,000: SX 48 SE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):

Date of Last Revision:

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1988

Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

In Dartmoor National Park. Listed as of national importance in the Geological Conservation Review. A new site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

The knoll of Brent Tor is one of the few well-exposed examples of Lower Carboniferous basaltic hyaloclastites in Devon. From the limited outcrop pattern submarine volcanism probably built a small localised high-level hyaloclastite mound on the seafloor. The stratigraphically upper portion of the sequence is poorly bedded and demonstrates the effect of water current reworking, carrying volcanic debris down slope for a considerable distance. As Hercynian submarine volcanism is generally represented by the development of pillow lavas, this locality is a rare example of a Carboniferous eruption event that produced basaltic volcanoclastites.