

COUNTY: DERBYSHIRE

SITE NAME: DUCHY QUARRY

DISTRICT: HIGH PEAK

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

Local Planning Authority: DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, High Peak Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SK 093767

Area: 2.4 (ha.) 5.9 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 119

1:10,000: SK 07 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:

The rock faces and outcrops within this site provide excellent exposures of limestone layers formed about 335 million years ago, during the early Carboniferous Period. The limestones, which here are known as the 'Chee Tor Rock' include fossil rich layers of special importance for accurately dating the sequence of rocks and making comparisons with rocks of similar age elsewhere. One of the important fossiliferous layers in the Chee Tor Rock is found only at this locality. The quarry faces are divided up by well-marked layers which have weathered back into a series of miniature caverns. These layers result from intervals during the formation of the limestones when deposition ceased and the sea floor where deposits had accumulated was uplifted and exposed above sea-level. During these periods, soils formed on the surface by accumulation of volcanic ash and percolating water partially dissolved away the limestone layers beneath. This is a nationally important, early Carboniferous, geological locality.