

County: Devon **Site Name:** Brampford Speke

District: East Devon

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

Local Planning Authority: East Devon District Council, Devon County Council

National Grid Reference: SX 930986 **Area:** 82.97 (ha) 204.94 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 192 **1:10,000:** SX 99 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): – **Date of Last Revision:** –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1993 **Date of Last Revision:** –

Other Information:

New site.

Geological Conservation Review Site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This reach of the River Exe is important in illustrating two types of floodplain development, principally through small-scale, high-frequency discharge events. The floodplain had developed through lateral meander movement and overbank sedimentation in abandoned palaeochannels. Detailed study of one complex meander bend has shown that maximum erosion occurred during discharge events with a recurrence interval of 2.5 years; evidence for large scale flood erosion is absent. This site therefore provides an important contrast with others such as the Lyn where high magnitude, low-frequency events have left a significant geomorphological impact.

In summary this site is important because it helps illustrate the processes which form contemporary flood plains along Britain's rivers.