

**County:** Devon      **Site Name:** Pitts Cleave

**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

**National Grid Reference:** SX 501761      **Area:** 9.7 (ha) 24.0 (ac)

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 191, 201      **1:10,000:** SX 57 NW

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

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1991      **Date of Last Revision:** –

**Other Information:**

New site.

A Geological Conservation Review site.

**Description and Reasons for Notification:**

This site contains a typical example of one of the largest massive alkali dolerite greenstone bodies in this area. The sill-like body intrudes and incorporates within it black argillite rafts of Lower Carboniferous (Visean) age. It not only shows a variety of primary internal textures and mineralogies, but also exhibits excellent curved columnar jointing only occasionally seen in the massive greenstones. This body (and many others in the area) lie within the aureole of the Dartmoor granite and show the superimposed mineralogical effects of low-grade contact metamorphism.