

COUNTY: HEREFORD & WORCESTER

SITE NAME: LEDBURY CUTTING

DISTRICT: MALVERN HILLS

SITE REF: 15 P9T

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

Local Planning Authority: HEREFORD & WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL, Malvern Hills District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 712385

Area: 1.6 (ha.) 3.9 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 149

1:10,000: SO 73 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): –

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

New site.

Reasons for Notification:

This Downtonian (Lower Pridoli) site has yielded abundant collections of early ostracoderms (bony 'fish'). This fossil material is very important because it includes many complete specimens in which body and tail are still attached to the cephalic shields. This is a rare form of preservation in Britain, and these specimens are therefore very important. The complete *Hemicyclaspis* species are essential for the reconstruction of this genus, and also for the interpretation of cephalaspids in general. This is the type locality of the species *Thyestes egertoni* and *Didymaspsi grindrodi*.