

COUNTY: DEVON

SITE NAME: CORYTON QUARRY

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: West Devon

National Grid Reference: SX 466 894

Area: 2.01 (ha.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 201

1:10,000: SX 48 SE/NE

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 24 May 1999

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

This is a Geological Conservation Review Site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Coryton Quarry lies about four kilometres west of the village of Lydford on the north-western margins of Dartmoor.

This disused quarry, formerly worked from partially underground galleries, provides important exposures of upper Viséan limestones and shales which have been recumbently folded on a large scale. Bedding is subvertical, dipping and younging towards the north. One gallery in particular demonstrates the hinge zone of a major north facing recumbent fold. Large scale mullion structures, and a non-axial planar cleavage form, can be observed. This provides an important demonstration of structures developed during the Variscan orogenic episode and in particular gives unequivocal evidence of fold facing directions for this region.