

6.3 SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

The Company commissioned Castings Technology International to carry out a survey of Sites of Special Scientific Interest and their report is enclosed.

The report covers a radius area of 10km and we believe the only area of concern close to the foundry to be reference number 3 – Wrens Nest Paleontology Site.



Ann

Can you check
if PVN has a Yes
copy of this

Castings Technology International

www.castingstechnology.com

QUESTION 6.3

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John Dudley
Thomas Dudley LTD,
PO Box 28,
Birmingham,
New Road,
Dudley,
DY1 4SN

February 2002

Dear John,

Please find enclosed a map and an information sheet indicating the location of SSSI's and SAC's in your area. The area highlighted on the map is for a 10km radius. I have enclosed the citation sheets supplied by English Nature for reference purposes.

This information will be used within your PPC application, to assist your assessment of your potential environmental impact.

If you have any problems or require further information please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

James Stevenson
Environmental Services.



0144
1607



FM30541

Notes for Location Map of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's)

Arrow at the centre of blue circle

Location of site

Blue shaded area

Five kilometre (5km) radius from the site

Red shaded area

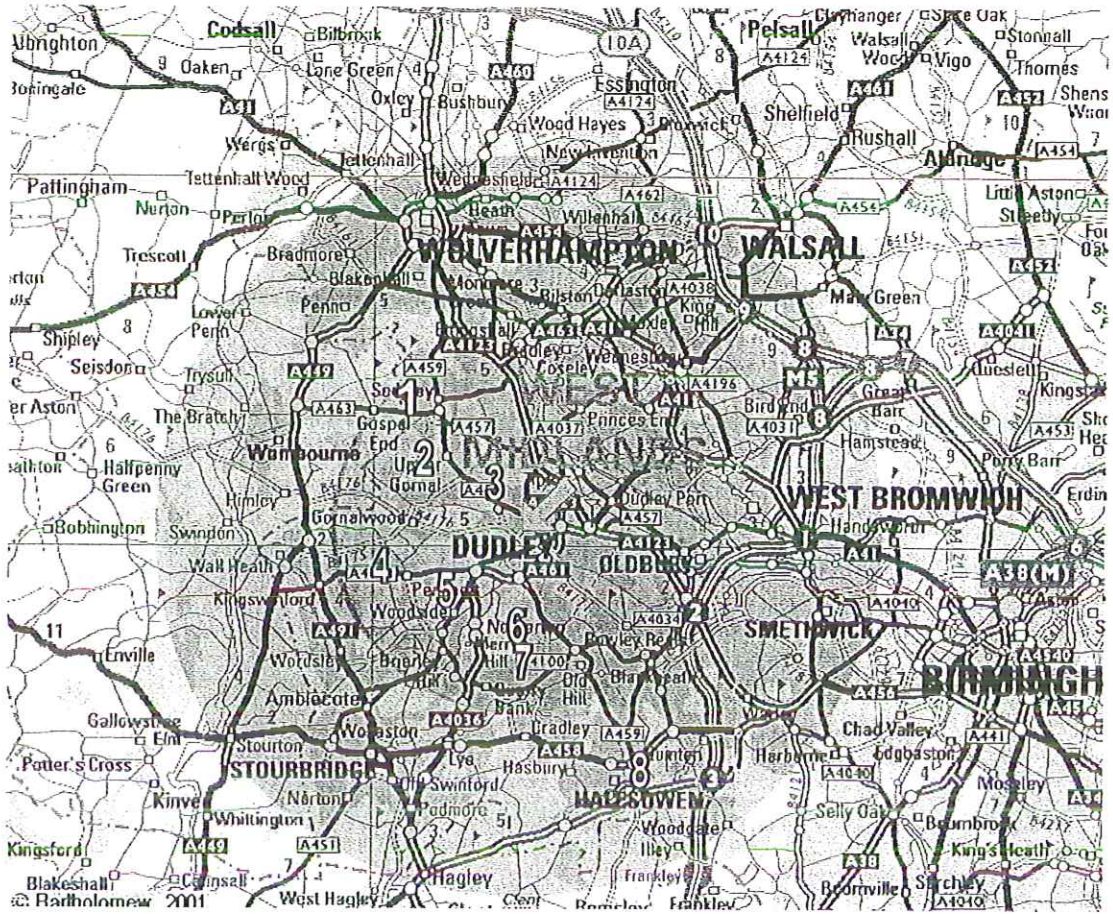
Five to ten kilometre (5- 10km) radius from the site

SSSI's Present Within Area

Reference Number	Site Name	Grid Reference	Size (ha)	Reason for classification
1	Gospel End Road Cutting	SO 904936	0.11	Geological Interest.
2	Turner's Hill	SO 909918	1.5	Geological Interest.
3	Wren's Nest	SO 937920	34.1	Of palaeontological interest.
4	Ketley Claypit	SO 899891	1.64	Geological Interest.
5	Fens Pool	SO 920886	37.6	Largest amphibian site in West Midlands.
6	Brewins Canal Section	SO 971835	1.34	Geological interest.
7	Doulton's Claypit	SO 936870	3.3	Geological Interest.
8	Broomsgrove Road Cutting	SO 920886	0.2	Geological Interest

There is one candidate Special Area of Conservation within the 10 km radius. This is Fens Pool (No. 5 above) . This area has been selected as it contains the rare great crested Newt.

The West Midlands team of English Nature supplied the information used.



COUNTY: STAFFORDSHIRE SITE NAME: GOSPEL END ROAD CUTTING

DISTRICT: South Staffordshire SITE REF: 15W4K

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

Local Planning Authority: STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
South Staffordshire District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 904936 Area: 0.11 (ha) 0.27 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 139 1:10,000: SO 99 SW

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 29/3/94 Date of Last Revision:

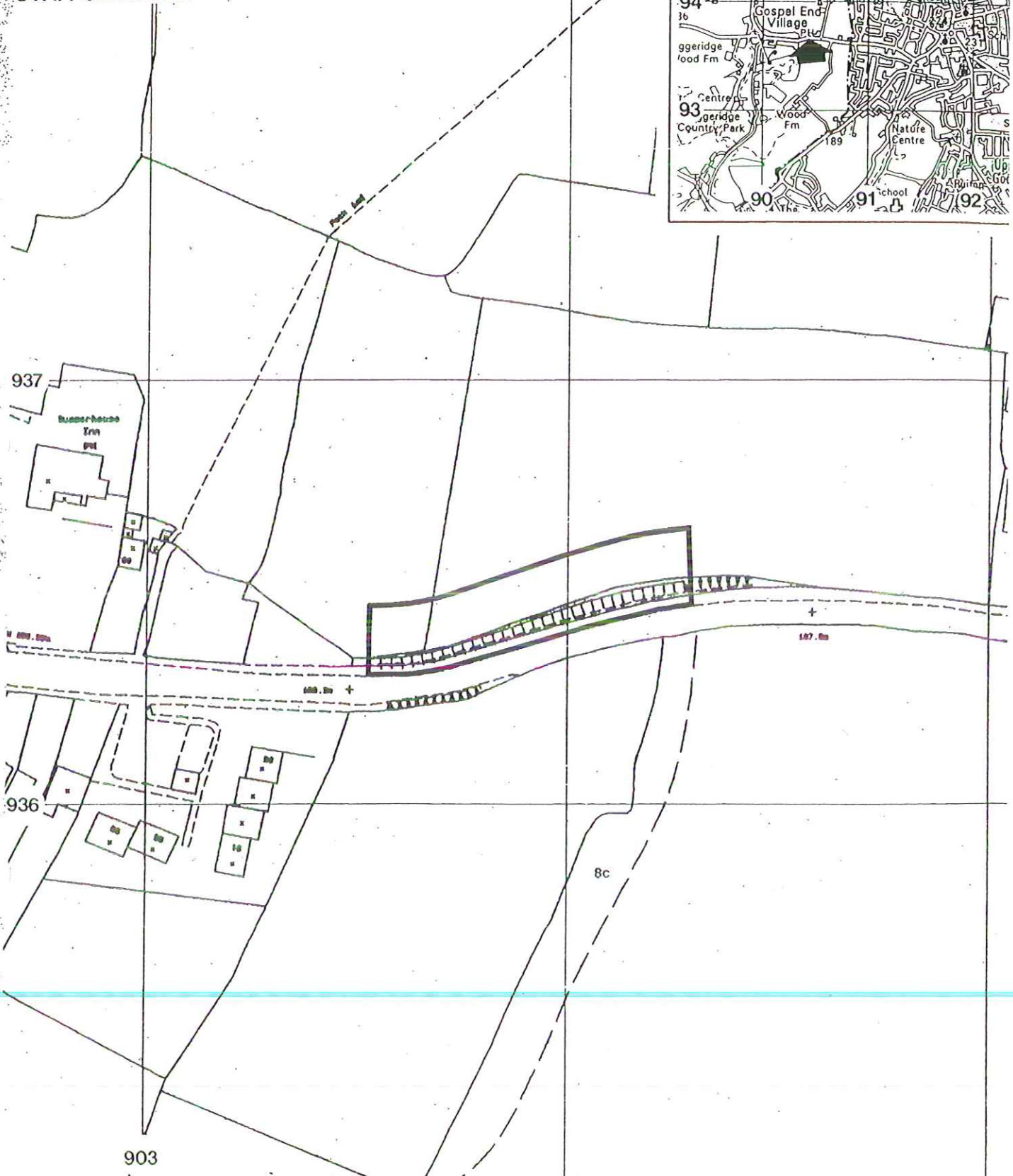
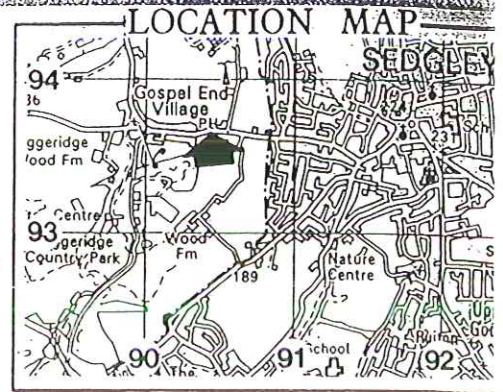
Other Information:

New Site

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This is the best available exposure of so-called "breccias" belonging to the Etruria Formation. They are of considerable interest because they represent sediments formed during the transition to desert conditions in the Late Carboniferous to Early Permian, reflecting world-wide climatic changes occurring at this time. The sequence actually represents mainly fluvial channel deposits with pebbly lags, with minor overbank deposits, and is the most typical development of this formation. A site of considerable scientific significance.

GOSPEL END ROAD CUTTING STAFFORDSHIRE



NOTE: Boundary extends 10m back from top of cutting.
The pavement is included within the site.

English Nature
Nature Conservancy Council for England

Site of Special Scientific Interest boundary thus ————

Date notified: **29 March 1994**

Scale 1:1250

0 metres 50
 0 feet 150

Grid North ↑
 © English Nature

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COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: TURNER'S HILL

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15WAR

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

Local Planning Authority: DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: SO 909918 Area: 1.5 (ha) 3.7 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet: 1:50,000: 139 1:10,000: SO 99 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1968 Date of Last Revision: 1968

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1989 Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

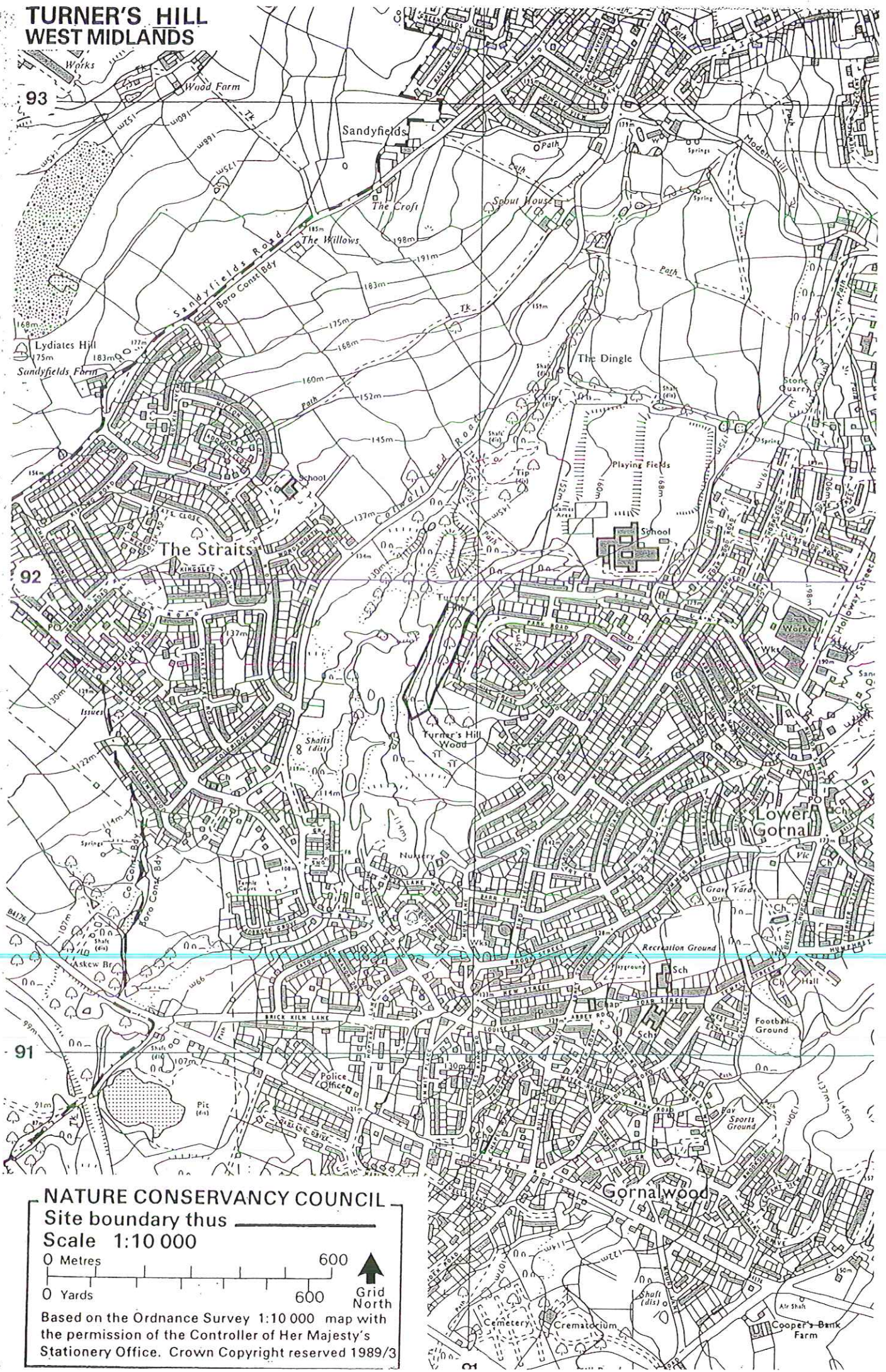
Site boundary alteration (reduction).

Site managed as a nature reserve by Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council.

Description and Reasons for Notification

Turner's Hill provides important exposures of a sequence of strata of late Silurian age spanning the Ludfordian-Pridoli boundary. It shows the Aymestrey Limestone Group, the Upper Ludlow Shale including the Sedgley Limestone, the Ludlow Bone Bed and a very coarse development of the Downton Castle Sandstone. A diverse shelly macrofauna of commonly occurring species and a well preserved marine microfauna are found in the Sedgley Limestone comparable to assemblages in rocks of the same age in the classic Ludlow sections. This rock sequence is rarely so well exposed and this locality is therefore of considerable importance in understanding the nature of late Silurian geology in Britain.

TURNER'S HILL WEST MIDLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL

Site boundary thus

Scale 1:10 000

0 Metres

600

0 Yards

600



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COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: KETLEY CLAYPIT

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15WJ8

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

Local Planning Authority: Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SO 899891 Area: 1.64 (ha) 4.05 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet: 1:50,000: 139 1:10,000: SO 88 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):

Date of Last Revision:

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990

Date of Last Revision:

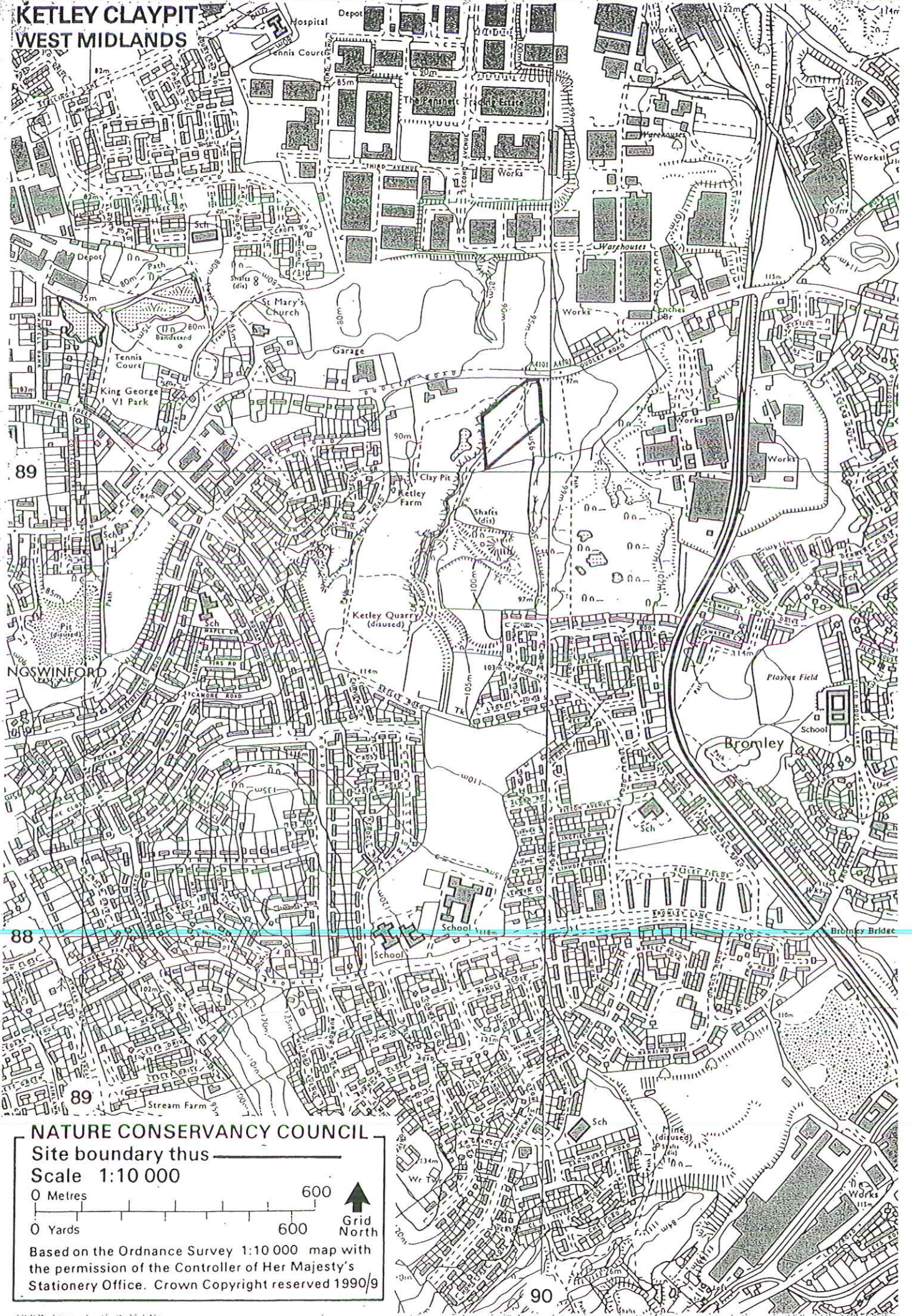
Other Information:





New Site.

Description and Reasons for Notification

An outstanding section through the upper part of the Etruria Formation of the Carboniferous Period, showing the junction with the overlying Halesowen Formation. The former part of the section has excellent examples of sheet and channel sandstone bodies, separated by purple grey floodplain mudstones, and may be regarded as typical of the fluvial-influenced facies of the Etruria Formation. Only in the English Midlands is this distinctive red-bed facies found in the Westphalian C of northern Europe, and it probably resulted from mountain building processes in action at that time. As an aid to interpreting this highly unusual type of Westphalian strata, this site is of considerable significance.

KETLEY CLAYPIT WEST MIDLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
 Site boundary thus 
 Scale 1:10 000
 0 Metres  600
 0 Yards  600  Grid North
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COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: WREN'S NEST

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15OWN

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

National Nature Reserve (NNR) declared under Section 19 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

Local Planning Authority: DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: SO 937920 Area: 34.1 (ha) 84.3 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet: 1:50,000: 139 1:10,000: SO 99 SW

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990 Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

New Site

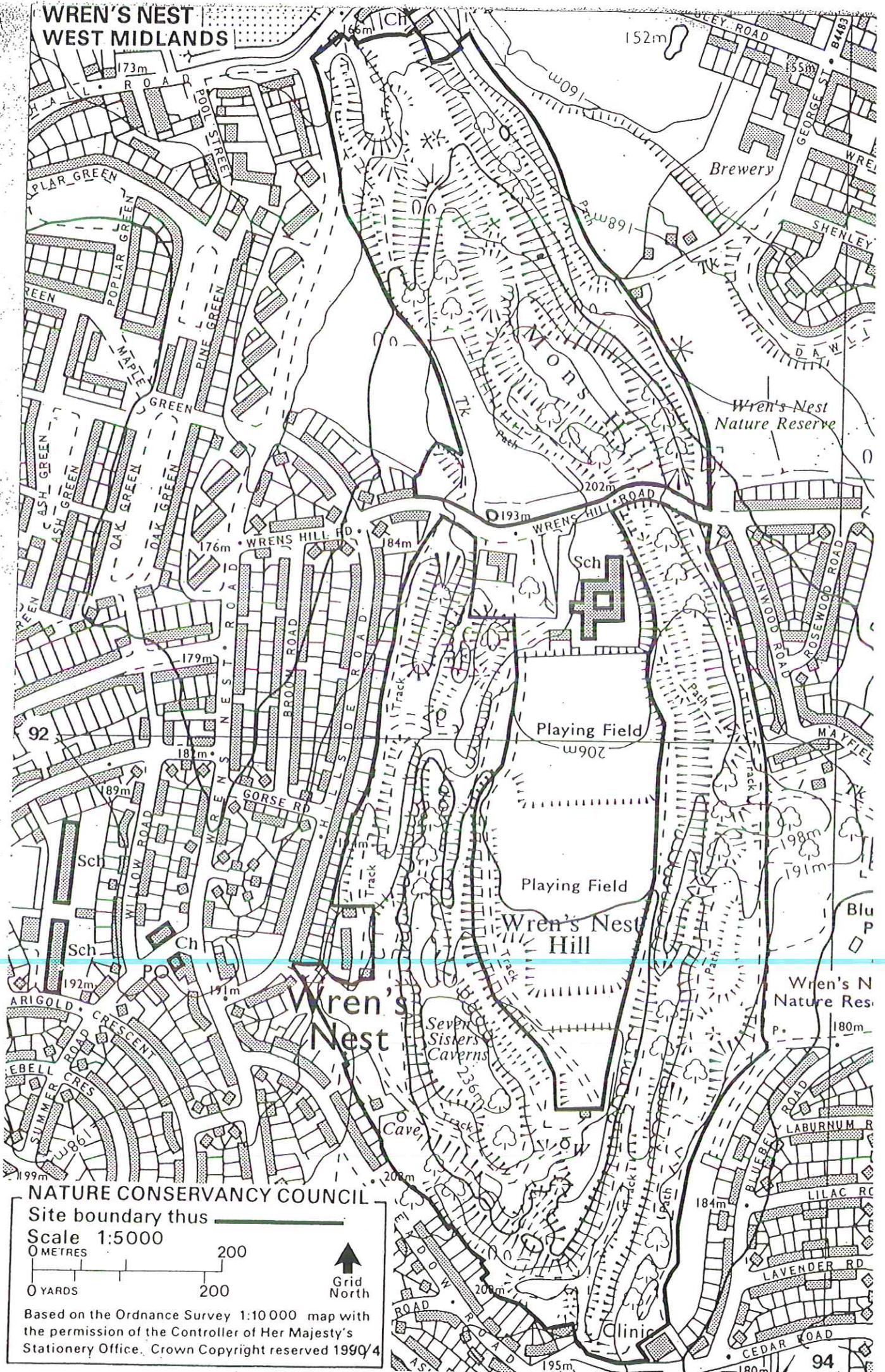
Description and Reasons for Notification

This site is of exceptional palaeontological importance particularly for rocks of Wenlock age. This internationally famous locality has yielded both macro- and micro-fossils of superb preservation, great variety and in great abundance. All museums in the British Isles house excellent material from the Wren's Nest, and many foreign institutions boast collections from here also. The name of Dudley has become synonymous world-wide with Wenlock limestone fossils of outstanding quality. They have been discussed and figured in scores of publications from the 18th century onwards and have allowed the recognition of innumerable species new to science, for which this is their type locality.


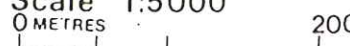

Resting on Upper Quarried Limestone of the Much Wenlock Limestone is the Lower Elton Formation of the Ludlow. This formation has a typical shelly fauna and a well preserved and diverse acritarch microflora. The junction between the Wenlock and the Ludlow strata is seen here, the limestones of the Upper Quarried Limestone grading through passage beds to the Elton Formation. This site affords a rare opportunity to examine post-Wenlock Silurian rocks in the West Midlands.

One of the most notable geological locations in the British Isles.

WREN'S NEST
WEST MIDLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL

Site boundary thus 
Scale 1:5000
0 METRES  200
0 YARDS  200



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COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: FENS POOLS

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15W1K

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

Local Planning Authority: Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SO 920886 Area: 37.6 (ha) 92.9 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet: 1:50,000: 139 1:10,000: SO 98 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):

Date of Last Revision:

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1989

Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

New Site.

Description and Reasons for Notification

Fens Pools SSSI lies to the north of Brierley Hill and comprises three canal feeder reservoirs and a series of smaller pools. The site lies over Etruria Marl and Middle Coal Measures of the Carboniferous period and shows evidence of past mining and industrial activities. The site includes a wide range of habitats from open water through swamp, fen and inundation communities to unimproved neutral and acidic grassland and scrub.

Fens Pools is the best amphibian site known in the West Midlands. Amphibians inhabit the whole site, using the pools for breeding. The community includes common frog (Rana temporaria), common toad (Bufo bufo) and exceptional numbers of both smooth and great crested newts (Triturus vulgaris and T. cristatus). The great crested newt population is one of the largest so far recorded in Britain.

The swamp, fen and inundation communities associated with the open water include county rarities such as mare's-tail (Hippuris vulgaris), common club-rush (Schoenoplectus lacustris), orange foxtail (Alopecurus aequalis) and lesser water-parsnip (Berula erecta). Species-rich areas of marshy grassland and acidic flush contain a range of sedges (Carex demissa, C. flacca and C. otrubae), as well as common fleabane (Pulicaria dysenterica), hemp-agrimony (Eupatorium cannabinum) and an extensive population of southern marsh orchid (Dactylorhiza praetermissa). Adder's-tongue (Ophioglossum vulgatum), a rare plant in the county, is associated with an area of unimproved neutral grassland which is species-rich and shows evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation.

At least ten species of dragonfly have been recorded from the site including the locally uncommon emperor dragonfly (Anax imperator) and migrant hawkler (Aeshna mixta). Over 20 species of butterfly have been recorded including locally uncommon species such as dingy skipper (Erynnis tages) and green hairstreak (Callophrys rubi). Breeding birds include great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus), lesser whitethroat (Sylvia curruca), reed warbler (Acrocephalus scirpaceus), sedge warbler (A. schoenobaenus) and, occasionally, little ringed plover (Charadrius dubius). Water rail (Rallus aquaticus) and goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) are regular winter visitors.

Reasons for recommendation as a candidate Special Area of Conservation

Area name: Fens Pools

Administrative area: Dudley

Component SSSI: Fens Pools

This area has been recommended as a candidate Special Area of Conservation (SAC) because it contains habitat types and/or species which are rare or threatened within a European context. The SSSI citation describes the special interests for which the site was notified in the British context. [NB: not for marine interests below mean low water mark]. The interests for which the site was selected as SSSI may differ from the interests selected in a European context.

Interest(s) submitted to the European Commission

European interest(s):

1. *Triturus cristatus*

- for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Great crested newt. The great crested newt is the largest native British newt, and occurs at scattered localities throughout lowland Britain. It requires not only ponds and pools for breeding but also suitable adjacent habitats where the newts hibernate and feed for much of the year. Populations are thought to have declined dramatically throughout the species' European range.

For agency use only:


Date issued: _____

Reference number or date of map: _____

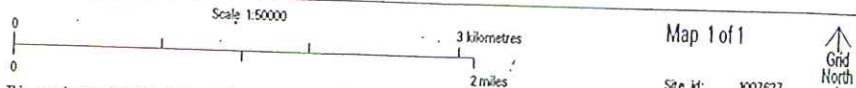
Nature Conservancy Council for England
ENGLISH NATURE Candidate Special Area of Conservation

Fens Pools

Dudley

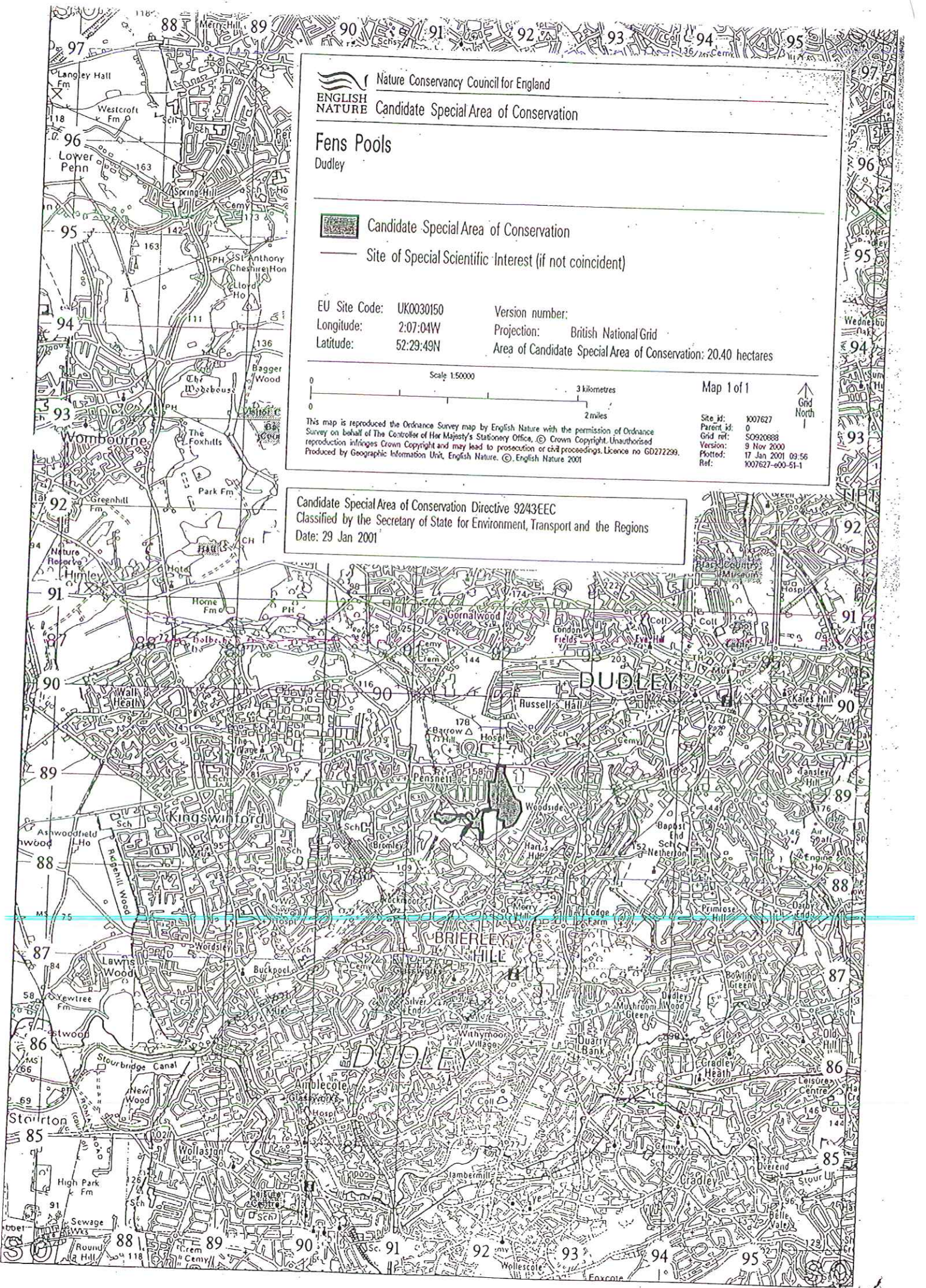
 Candidate Special Area of Conservation
— Site of Special Scientific Interest (if not coincident)

EU Site Code: UK0030150 Version number:
Longitude: 2:07:04W Projection: British National Grid
Latitude: 52:29:49N Area of Candidate Special Area of Conservation: 20.40 hectares

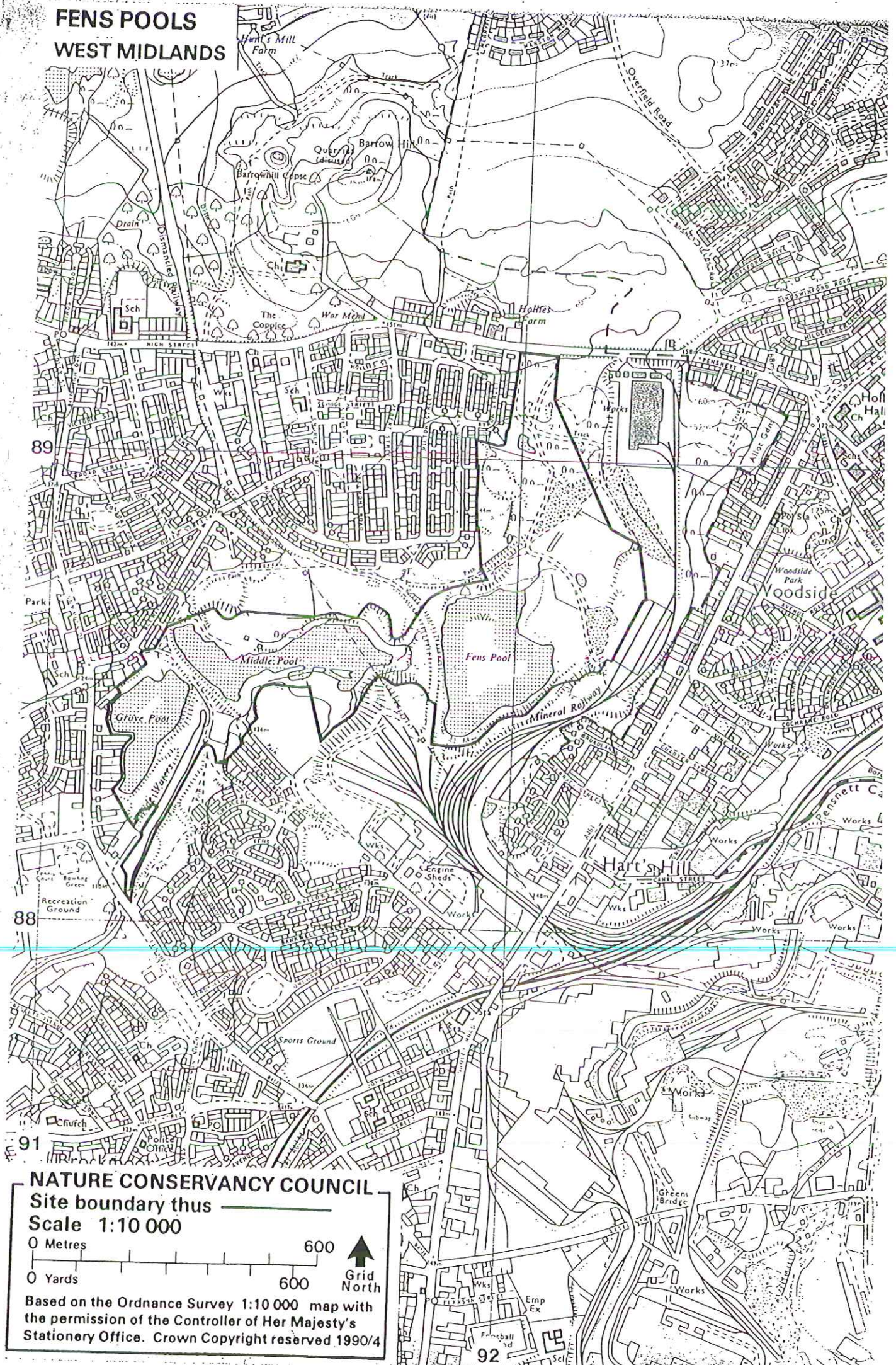


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Candidate Special Area of Conservation Directive 92/43/EEC
Classified by the Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions
Date: 29 Jan 2001



FENS POOLS WEST MIDLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
Site boundary thus ———
Scale 1:10 000
0 Metres 600
0 Yards 600 Grid North
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File Ref: WM/S/2

COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: BREWIN'S CANAL SECTION

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15WAH

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

Local Planning Authority: Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SO 936876

Area: 1.34 (ha) 3.3 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 139

1:10,000: SO 98 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1955

Date of Last Revision:

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990

Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

Site boundary alteration (extension and reduction).
Includes land formerly within Doulton's Claypit SSSI.

Description and Reasons for Notification

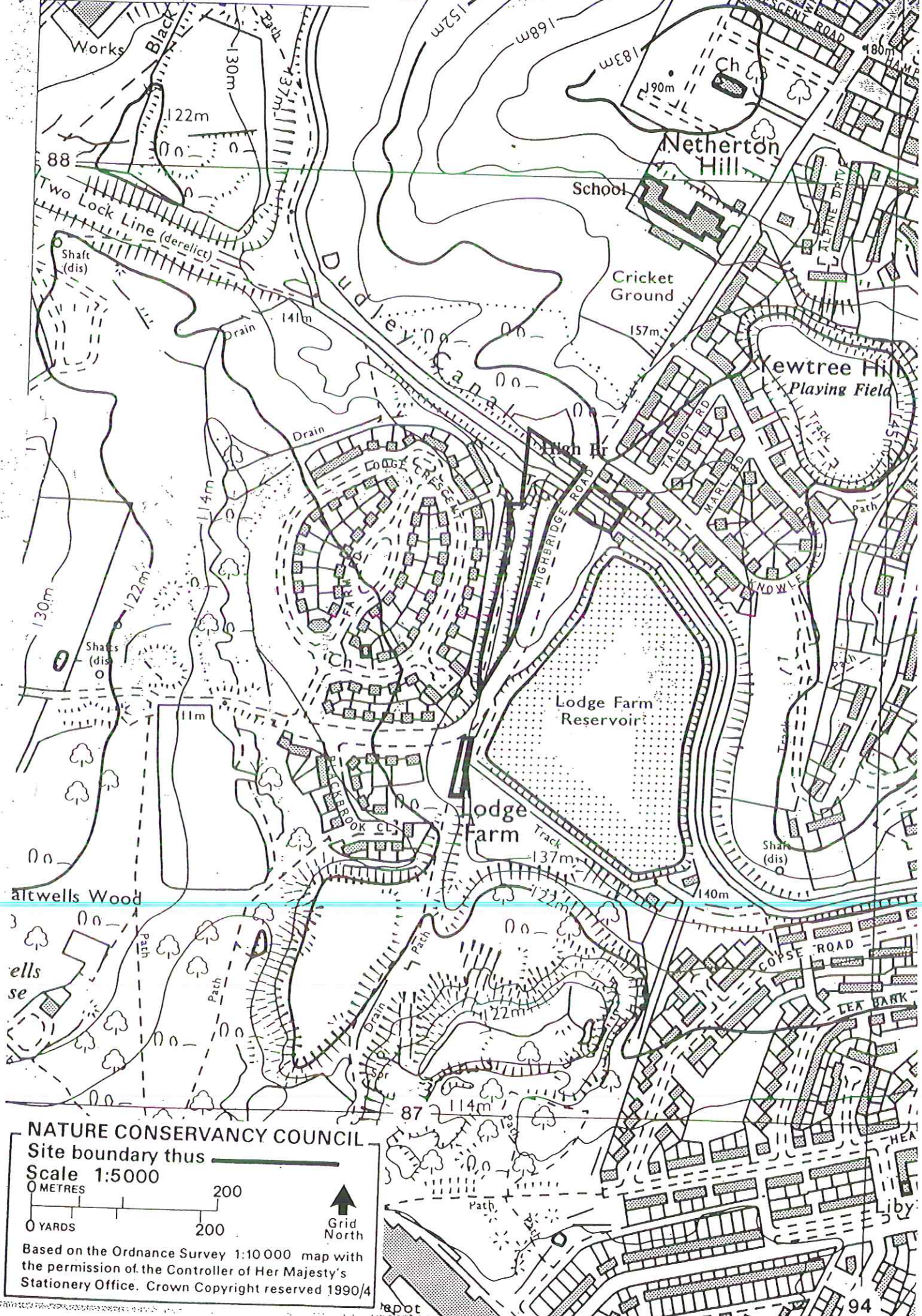
The site shows a section through the rocks of the Ludlow and Pridoli Series of the Silurian Period. The lowest units of the Ludfordian yield common brachiopods and cephalopods. The highest Ludfordian beds are marginal marine with a high clastic content and common plant debris. Shelly interbeds have yielded important conodont faunas. The Downton Castle Sandstone caps the late Silurian section.

This is the best available exposure showing the conglomeratic base of the Westphalian sequence in this part of the South Staffordshire Coalfield. Although Carboniferous strata older than the Westphalian have been reported occasionally in this coalfield, normally the lowest sediments are Westphalian A or Westphalian B and typically are a conglomerate. In this case, the conglomerate can be shown to be just below the Westphalian B Thick Seam present in the nearby Doulton's Claypit SSSI. This site, therefore, provides an invaluable insight into the development of coal deposits in the English Midlands.


EWIN'S CANAL SECTION

WEST MIDLANDS

Icknook Bridge



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL

Site boundary thus 

Scale 1:5000

0 METRES

200

0 YARDS

200



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18:00

94

File Ref: WM/S/18

COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: DOULTON'S CLAYPIT

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15WAF

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

Local Planning Authority: Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

National Grid Ref: SO 936870

Area: 3.3 (ha) 8.2 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 139

1:10,000: SO 98 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1955

Date of Last Revision: 1968

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986

Date of Last Revision:

Other Information:

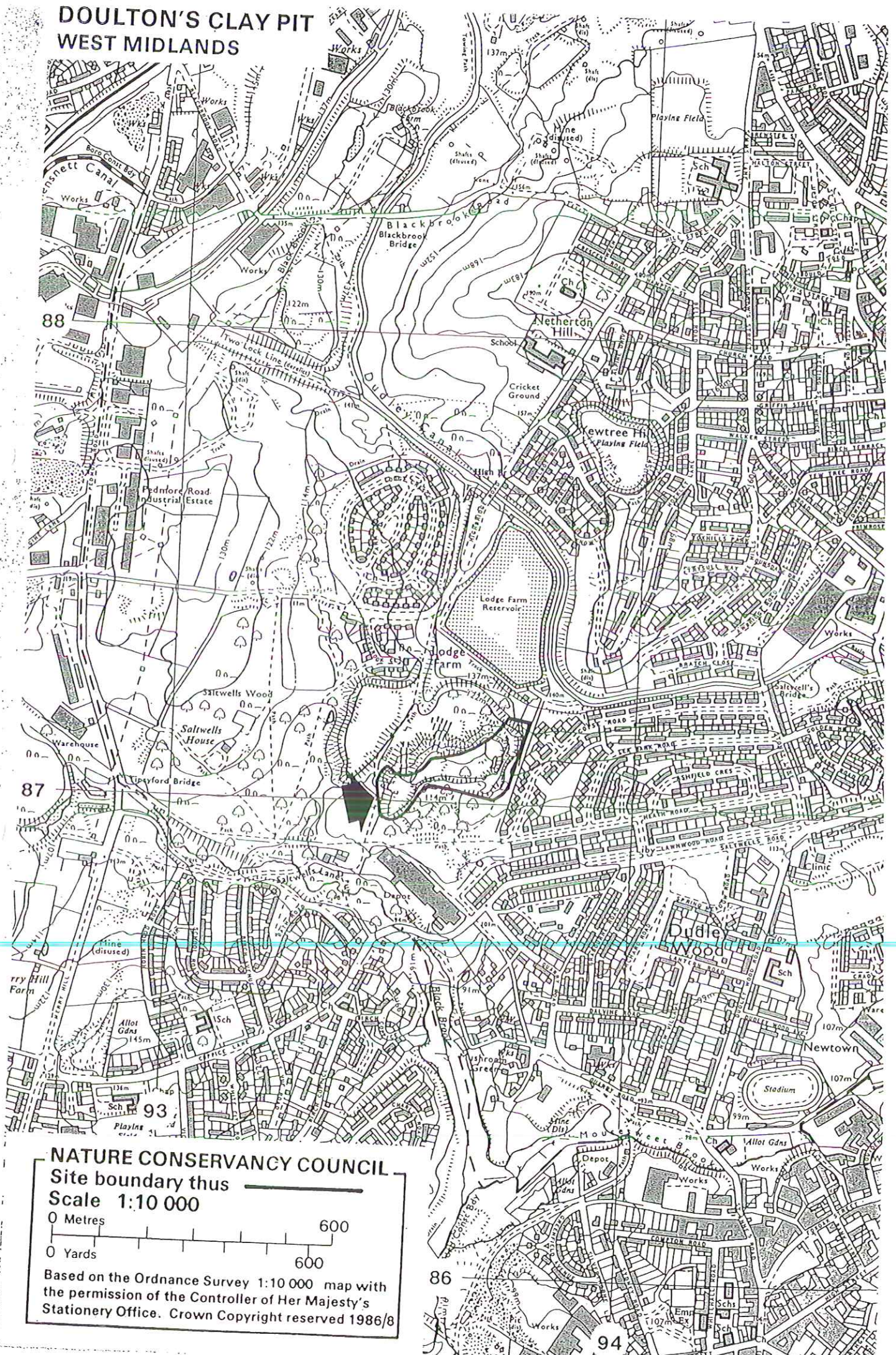
The site forms part of Saltwells Local Nature Reserve.

Description and Reasons for Notification

Doulton's Claypit demonstrates a series of strata through the Middle Coal Measures laid down in the Upper Carboniferous period c.310 million years ago.

This is the best exposure of the Productive Coal Formation in the Midlands coalfield. It shows a sequence from near the base of the formation and includes over 30 metres of floodplain and lacustrine shales and fluvial sandstones. There are also several coals, including the Thick Seam, which has been extensively worked in this coalfield, and the lower Heathen Seam. Of further interest is the presence of an important fossil flora, which indicates a Westphalian B age. The site may be regarded as a standard for the Productive Coal Formation in the English Midlands and is thus of considerable importance for understanding the development of Westphalian sedimentation in Britain.

DOULTON'S CLAY PIT WEST MIDLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL

Site boundary thus

Scale 1:10 000

0 Metres 600

0 Yards 600

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File Ref: WM/S/15

COUNTY: WEST MIDLANDS

SITE NAME: BROMSGROVE ROAD CUTTING,
TENTERFIELDS

DISTRICT: Dudley

SITE REF: 15WJ7

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

Local Planning Authority: Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SO 971835 Area: 0.2 (ha) 0.5 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet: 1:50,000: 139 1:10,000: SO 98 SE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):

Date of Last Revision:

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1990

Date of Last Revision:

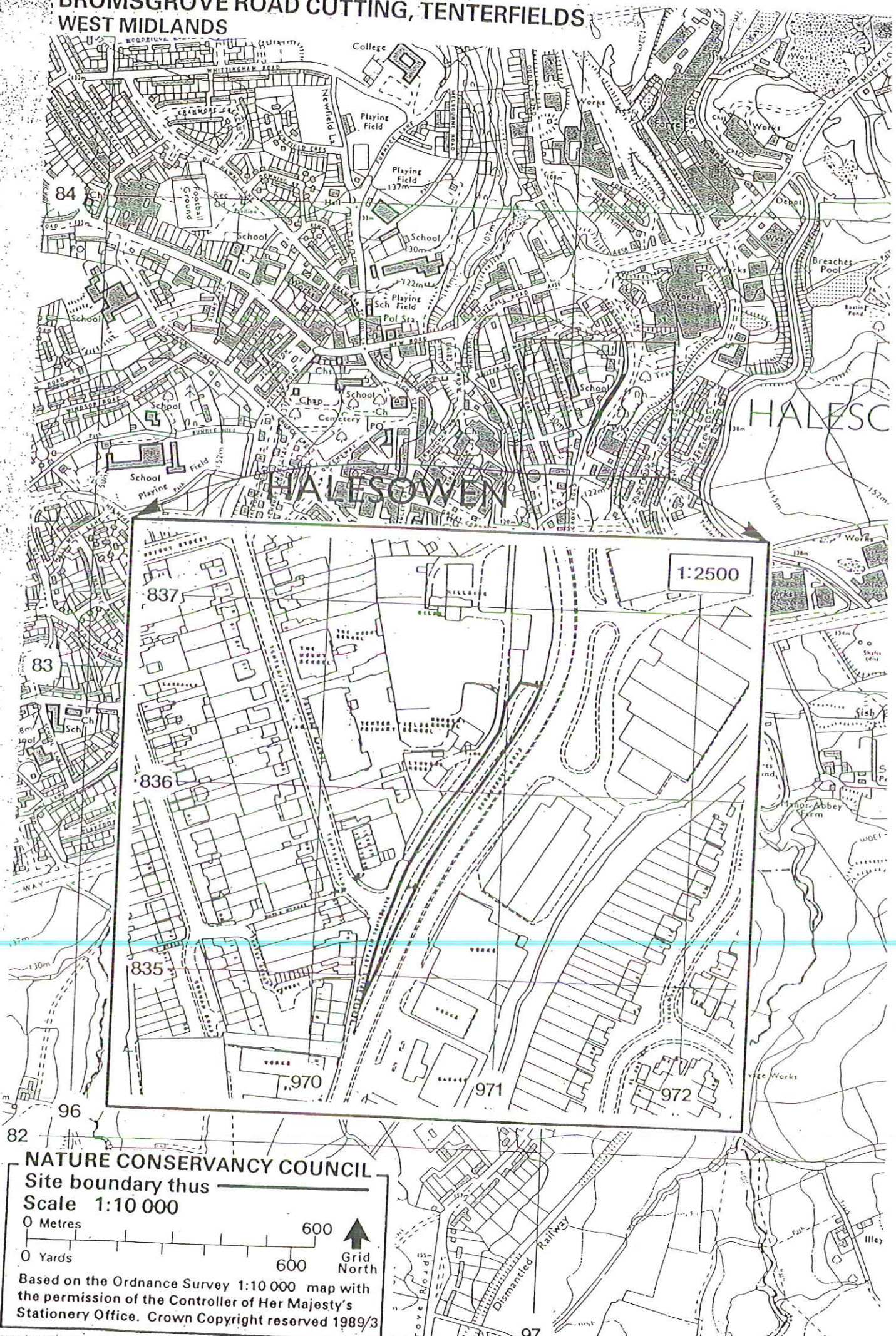
Other Information:





New Site

Description and Reasons for Notification

This is the best available exposure of the Basal Sandstone Member of the Halesowen Formation, (Upper Carboniferous). Most of the upper Westphalian of the English Midlands is represented by red-beds (the Etruria and Keele formations) in which little evidence of the coal swamps can be found. However, the Halesowen Formation shows a temporary reintroduction of coal swamp conditions during the early Westphalian D, and the basal sandstones seen here are the start of this major environmental change. This site therefore provides important evidence to help the environmental interpretation of Britain during the Westphalian Epoch.

BROMSGROVE ROAD CUTTING, TENTERFIELDS WEST MIDLANDS



NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL
 Site boundary thus 
 Scale 1:10 000
 0 Metres 
 0 Yards 
 Grid North 
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