

## CITATION SHEET

**COUNTY:** SOMERSET

**SITE NAME:** COOK'S WOOD QUARRY

**DISTRICT:** Somerset

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

**Local Planning Authority:** Mendip District Council

**National Grid Reference:** ST 669479      **Area:** 0.8 ha

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 183      **1:10,000:** ST 64NE

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 27 November 1988

**Date of Last Revision:**

**Other Information:** This is a Geological Conservation Review Site. This site partially overlaps with St. Dunstan's Well Catchment SSSI.

### **Description and Reasons for Notification:**

This large quarry, in active use, is located 1 km north-east of Stoke St Michael, in the eastern Mendip Hills.

The main exposures, adjacent to Bector Lane and immediately south of Cook's Wood, are cut in very steeply-dipping Carboniferous Limestone. This was the original locality for the type section of the proposed 'Cookswodian Stage'. The quarry provides exposures of an approximately 200 m thick succession comprising massive and well bedded bioclastic and oolitic limestones of the Hotwells Group (Asbian) and the upper part of the Clifton Down Group (Holkerian).

Cook's Wood Quarry provides one of the best Asbian sections in the eastern Mendips, recording the transition from a carbonate ramp to a shelf setting, and displaying eustatic cycles which may be correlated with those recorded in central and northern Britain.