

Date Notified: 27 February 1997

**County:** Cumbria     **Site Name:** Side Pike

**District:** South Lakeland

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

**Local Planning Authority:** Lake District Special Planning Board

**National Grid Reference:** NY 290052     **Area:** 9.7 (ha)

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 90     **1:10,000:** NY 20 NE

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1977

**Other Information:**

A Geological Conservation Review (GCR) site.

**Description and Reasons for Notification:**

Side Pike forms a prominent spur of rock between Great Langdale and Little Langdale. The rock outcrops on the western slopes of Side Pike provide excellent exposure through a part of the Borrowdale Volcanic Group of Ordovician age.

The sequence comprises a variety of pyroclastic rocks, mainly tuffs and ignimbrites, which accumulated in a subaerial environment, and there is evidence that fall, flow and surge processes variously contributed to their emplacement. This nationally important section represents one of the very few instances in the British Isles in which evidence for such subaerial volcanic processes can be readily examined.