

COUNTY: DORSET

SITE NAME: ABBOTSBURY BLIND LANE

DISTRICT: WEST DORSET

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

Local Planning Authority: Dorset County Council, West Dorset District Council

National Grid Reference: SY 576856

Area: 0.4 (ha) 1.0 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 194

1:10,000: SY 58 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1977

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Geological Conservation Review Site. The area notified under 1981 Act is slightly less than under the 1949 Act.

Description:

This locality shows the oolitic ironstones and sandy beds of the Abbotsbury Ironstone, a marine deposit of Kimmeridgian (Upper Jurassic) age. This unusual facies yields typical ammonites of the *Cymodoce* Zone making it possible to equate these distinctive and areally restricted rocks with the more normal clays and silts seen in this part of the Lower Kimmeridgian elsewhere in Dorset. This is an important site for its faunas and for the information it affords on marine sedimentation and environments in the late Jurassic.