

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** Kirkdale Cave

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

Local Planning Authority: Ryedale District Council

National Grid Reference: SE 678856

Ordnance Survey Sheets 1:50,000: 100 **1:10,000:** SE 68 NE

Area: 0.3 (ha) 0.75 (ac)

First Notified: 1960*

Date of Revision: 1984

Description:

Kirkdale Cave is a small cave used during the Ipswichian Interglacial as a den by hyenas. Pleistocene deposits excavated from the cave were the subject of an historic publication by Dean Buckland in 1822 which marked a milestone in the progress of research on Pleistocene faunas. The locality is the most northerly in the world to have yielded a 'hippopotamus' fauna.

Other Information:

1. The site has been identified as of national importance in the Geological Conservation Review.
2. During the 1984 revision the boundary has been amended.

*Under Section 23 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.