

**COUNTY:** CAMBRIDGESHIRE **SITE NAME:** HISTON ROAD

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

**Local Planning Authorities:** South Cambridgeshire District Council

**National Grid Reference:** TL 444610

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 154                      **1:10,000:** TL 46 SW

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

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1984                      **Date of Last Revision:**

**Area:** 0.6 ha 1.4 ac

**Other information:** This is a 'Geological Conservation Review' site and a new addition to the Cambridgeshire Schedule.

**Description and Reasons for Notification**

A key Pleistocene stratigraphic site. At this locality fluviatile silts and marls, with gravel seams, comprising the third terrace level of the River Cam have yielded good sequences of pollen and non-marine Mollusca. A few vertebrate remains were also found. The importance of the deposit lies mainly in the fact that it provides an almost complete record of the second half of the Ipswichian Interglacial, a period of time so far represented at only one other site outside East Anglia. Pollen evidence of zone Ip 11 deposits in addition indicates that most of the interglacial is represented here.

It should be noted that at this site the deposits are currently unexposed, but its current use as allotments means that access to the deposits for future study is still possible.