COUNTY: NORTHAMPTONSHIRE **SITE NAME:** THRAPSTON STATION

QUARRY

District: East Northamptonshire

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

Countryside Act 1981

Local Planning Authority: East Northamptonshire District Council

National Grid Reference: TL 000776

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 141 **1:10,000:** SP 97 NE, TL 07 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1953 Date of Last Revision: 1970

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986 Date of Last Revision:

Area: 4.6 ha 11.4 ac

Other Information: This site was previously known as Thrapston Midland Railway Station Quarry.

Description and Reasons for Notification

An important and fossiliferous Jurassic stratigraphic locality showing the major remaining Cornbrash section in the Midlands. The rock sequence which can be seen in the quarry faces comprises Callovian, Upper Cornbrash resting on Bathonian Lower Cornbrash. These horizons in turn overlie Blisworth Clay and the White Limestone. The Upper Cornbrash is characterised by a pebble bed at its base which contains fossil material derived from underlying older beds, while the site shows the only complete section of the Blisworth Clay horizon. Both the Upper and Lower Cornbrash are fossiliferous and have yielded diagnostic ammonites which help date the rocks and important bryozoan faunas.