

**Site Name**     **Ledburn Quarry, Leighton Buzzard**

BEDFORDSHIRE LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITE DESIGNATION FORM		
<b>SITE LOCATION, ACCESS, OWNERSHIP, STATUS &amp; SUITABILITY</b>		
(1) <b>Name of site:</b> Ledburn Quarry, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire		
(2) <b>National grid reference:</b> SP 913 236		
(3) <b>Unitary authority:</b> Central Bedfordshire		
(4) <b>Site access and local amenities</b> Access is not possible at present. The site is used for waste recycling, but may in future be converted into a recreational area.		
(5) <b>Site ownership:</b> Leased by a contractor from Cemex.		
(6) <b>Mineral rights ownership:</b> N/A		
(7) <b>Is permission needed to access the site?</b>	a. No	b. Yes ✓
<b>If yes, from whom?</b> The site can not be visited at present.		
(8) <b>Locality status:</b> Active     Disused ✓     Historical     Managed ✓     Restored     New     Other		
(9) <b>Suitable for visits by:</b> a. General public	b. Small parties ✓	c. Large parties
d. Primary school	e. National Curriculum ✓	f. AS/A-Level
g. Adult ✓	h. Undergraduate teaching	i. Research
(10) <b>Site suitable for frequent visits by parties?</b>	a. No ✓	b. Yes
(11) <b>Should collecting and hammering be encouraged at the site?</b>	a. No ✓	b. Yes

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SITE DESCRIPTION		
(12) <b>Exposure type:</b>	a. Inland natural outcrop	b. Road cutting
c. Railway cutting	d. Active quarry/pit	e. Disused quarry/pit ✓
f. Old mine workings	g. Mine dump	h. Active mine
(13) <b>Dimensions of area of interest:</b> 50 x 3m face		
(14) <b>Main interest(s):</b>	a. Structural	b. Geomorphological
	d. Palaeontological	e. Petrological
	f. Stratigraphical	
	g. Other: Quarry remediation ✓	
(15) <b>Summary description and reason for designation</b> Ledburn preserves a section through part of the Woburn Sands Formation. The exposure is presently inaccessible and not particularly noteworthy.		
(16) <b>What threats exist for the site?</b> Access issues and future restoration plans will determine the fate of this site.		
(17) <b>What additional work is required to enhance the site?</b> Improved access and face clearance.		
(18) <b>Published/unpublished references to the site and wider area</b> Friend, P. 2008. <i>Southern Britain</i> . HarperCollins Publishers. 414 pages. Shephard-Thorn, E. R. <i>et al.</i> 1994. <i>Geology of the country around Leighton Buzzard</i> . Memoir for the 1:50 000 geological sheet 220 (England and Wales), London, HMSO. <i>Lower Greensand – Tiddenfoot &amp; Ledburn Quarries</i> . www.bedfordshiregeology group.org.uk		

SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE		
(19) <b>Does the site exhibit features of local/regional importance?</b>	a. No ✓	b. Yes
(20) <b>Is the site already a designated SSSI?</b>	a. No ✓	b. Yes
(21) <b>Collector interest:</b>	a. Rare species	b. Common species
	d. Regional significance	e. National significance
(22) <b>List of confirmed fossils, minerals, etc:</b> N/A		

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<b>HISTORICAL/AESTHETIC VALUE</b>		
(23) <b>Does the site have important historical associations?</b>	a. No ✓	b. Yes
(24) <b>Does the site form a key part of an attractive or evocative landscape?</b>	a. No ✓	b. Yes
(25) <b>Full description of site and its significance</b> A degraded section showing part of the Woburn Sands Formation, probably part of the 'Silver Sands'. Shephard-Thorn et al. (1994) record a thin sequence of 'Red Sands' and 'Brown Sands' beneath 1.2m of river terrace deposits in an adjacent pit at SP 9120 2396.		

<b>RECORDER'S DETAILS</b>
(26) <b>Name and organisation:</b> Dr Jill Eyers, consultant geologist working on behalf of B&LGG
(27) <b>Date of recording:</b> November 2004
(28) <b>Date of designation by Bedfordshire Local Geological Sites Panel:</b> August 2005

<b>CURRENT SITE CONDITION</b>
(29) Site condition at March 2009 is GOOD DECLINING; assessed by Martin Whiteley.

<b>NOTES</b>
(30) Form revised and updated by Dr Martin Whiteley, BGG Local Geological Site Manager, November 2010. For further details contact Anne Williams: annew36@hotmail.com