Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group

Warwickshire Local Geological Site		
Site No: 07	Steppy Lane Section	
Geological Formations	Purley Shale Formation (Cambrian) Abbey Shale Formation (Cambrian)	
Criteria Form		p 2
Description		p 3
Photographs		p 4
Location Map		p 5

Local Geological Sites (LGS), designated by locally developed criteria, are currently the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The designation of LGS is one way of recognising and protecting important Earth science and landscape features for future generations to enjoy.

WGCG is responsible for the identification of LGS in Warwickshire and the West Midlands.

Please note that designation of a site as a LGS does not confer a legal right of access. Unless the site is on a designated public right-of-way, the landowner's permission is required before visiting.

Warwickshire Local Geological Site - Criteria Form

Site name: Steppy Lane Section	**Also known as:**		
District: North Warwickshire	**County:** Warwickshire		
Grid reference: SP3092 95951 to 3109 9607	**LGS Number:** 7	**ESCC Class:**	ER

Brief Description: Cutting on disused railway line approximately 50m to the south of the present road south of Purley Park. This cutting exposes a 90m long dip section through the Purley Shale Formation, passing up into the Abbey Shale Formation of the Stockingford Shale Group. The strata have yielded fossil trilobites and brachiopods that allow correlation with similar sequences in Scandinavia.

This site qualifies as a Local Geological Site for the following criteria:

A Good Example of a potentially accessible fossil locality in the Purley Shale Formation

Educational Fieldwork

1. Educational Potential	✓	2. Physical access	✓	3. Safety	✓

Scientific Study

1. Diversity of interest		2. Rarity of interest		3. Size of feature	
4. Typicalness of feature	✓	5. Geological/physiographic linkage to: *Illing's Trenches SSSI & Purley Quarry (41)*			✓

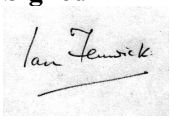
Historical Value

1. Celebrity link		2. Pioneering research		3. Historical link	

Aesthetic Value In The Landscape

1. Local importance in the landscape		2. Promotion of Earth science	

Signed



I M Fenwick, Chairman,
Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group

Date first selected February 1992	
Reviewed by LoGS panel Oct. 2009	
Further survey required	
LoGS Confirmed	✓

Endorsed by

Warwickshire Museum	**Natural England**
J Radley, Keeper of Geology	J A Irving, Conservation Adviser

In the event of any development or planning consultation relating to this site or its surrounds please inform:
The LoGS Officer WGCG, c/o Keeper of Geology, Warwickshire Museum, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SA (tel: 01926-418182)

WARWICKSHIRE GEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION GROUP
LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITE (LGS)

Site	7	Steppy Lane Section
Parish		Mancetter
District		North Warwickshire
County		Warwickshire
National Grid Reference		SP 3092 9595 to 3109 9607
Ordnance Survey Sheets 1:50000 **1:10000**		140 SP 39 NW

Location

Cutting adjacent to the fenceline on an incline approximately 50m to the south of the present road south of Purley Park. Very small exposures remain but are heavily overgrown (2009).

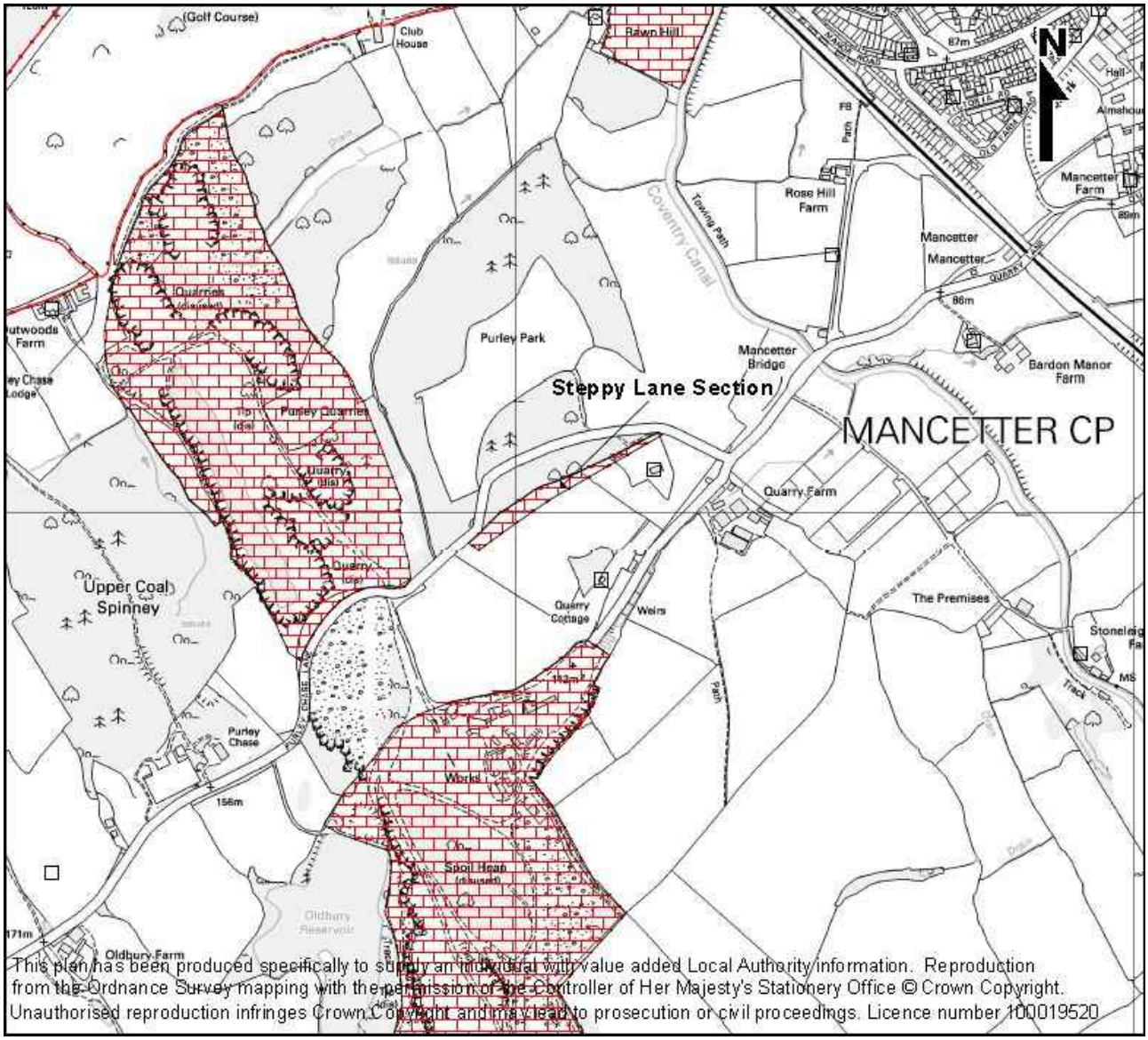
Summary of Interest

This cutting for the original Steppy Lane is a dip section through the Purley Shale Formation, passing up into the Abbey Shale Formation of the Stockingford Shale Group. The rock is exposed in only a short section from SP3110096077 to SP3112896087. The strata have yielded fossil trilobites and brachiopods that allow correlation with similar sequences in Scandinavia.

The Purley Shale Formation comprises blocky to shaly red or maroon mudstone and siltstone at the base; green and grey fissile mudstones in the middle and red and green interbedded shaly mudstones at the top. It was formed approximately 505 to 545 million years ago in the Cambrian Period. These rocks were formed on a deep ocean floor beyond the influence of land. They often consist of fine material from microscopic pelagic organisms.

The Abbey Shale Formation comprises dark grey, greenish or blueish black mudstones with thin beds of limestone and glauconitic sandstone. Locally with phosphate, pyrite and siderite nodules.

The site, which was designated an SSSI from 1972 – 1986, has considerable research potential.


(Golf Course)
Club House
Rawn Hill
Rose Hill Farm
Coventry Canal
Towing Path
Mancetter Farm
Mancetter
Purley Park
Steppy Lane Section
Mancetter Bridge
Bardon Manor Farm
MANCETTER CP
Quarry Farm
Purley Quarries
Upper Coal Spinney
Quarry Cottage
Weirs
The Premises
Purley Chase
Works
Spoil Heap
Oldbury Reservoir
Oldbury Farm
156m
171m
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