

**COUNTY:** BEDFORDSHIRE

**SITE NAME:** TOTTERNHOE STONE PIT

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

**Local Planning Authorities:** South Bedfordshire District Council  
Bedfordshire County Council

**National Grid Reference:** SP 982222

**Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000:** 165                      **1:10,000:** SP 92 SE

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

**Date Notified (Under 1981 Act):** 1996                      **Date of Last Revision:**

**Area:** 2.05 ha 5.06 ac

**Other information:** This is a Geological Conservation Review (GCR) site. It is adjacent to the biological SSSI of Totternhoe Knolls.

**Statement of Interest**

The phosphatic base of the Totternhoe Stone is exposed at this site. It consists of a lime mud containing phosphatic pebbles and a rich late Cretaceous deposit of shark teeth. It has yielded many taxa of small sharks, some of which are underdescribed, and will be an important research site for years to come. Working upwards through the deposit the faunal composition changes. The basal part contains larger teeth, but as the sediment fines upwards small rays make an appearance.

Re-presentation of details approved by Council. Re-typed December 1998.  
Site Area calculated by GIS 19 April 1998.