



Wrose Hill, Shipley

STATUS: Local Geological Site

OTHER DESIGNATIONS:

COUNTY: West Yorkshire

DISTRICT: Bradford

OS GRID REF. SE 156 371

OS SHEET 1:50,000 Landranger 104 Leeds and Bradford

OS SHEET: 1:25,000 Explorer 288 Bradford and Huddersfield

BGS Geological 1:50,000 Sheet 69 Bradford (Solid and Drift edition)

FIRST DESIGNATED by West Yorkshire RIGS Group in 1996

DATE OF MOST RECENT SURVEY West Yorkshire Geology Trust in January 2009

SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION produced by Neil Aitkenhead

DESIGNATION SHEET UPDATED August 2009

SITE DESCRIPTION:

The Upper Carboniferous (Lower Coal Measures) Stanningley Rock and 48 Yard Rock and associated strata in the quarry comprise a total exposure of about 30m in two quarries for the former brickworks. The lower quarry reveals an inter-bedded sequence of siltstones and fine sandstones with about half a metre of recumbent slump folds which may be related to instability on the bed of a lake.

The upper quarry exposes mudstones and siltstones coarsening upward into the sandstone of the 48 Yard Rock. This sandstone may be interpreted as deposition in a mouth bar. A rock fall in 2004 has revealed many well preserved plant fossils together with the sand filled burrows referred to as *Arenicolites carbonarius*.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS:

This is the site of the former Wrose Hill brickworks where the section included the 36 Yard Coal, ganister and pipe clay which were worked for the manufacture of firebricks and sanitary tubes. Green and Russell (1878) recorded that the fireclay was 5ft thick and quite white. The Halifax Hard Bed Coal was seen to be 1ft 10inches thick and rested directly above the fireclay (p111).

EDUCATIONAL VALUE:

This is a suitable site for higher level students to investigate depositional environments and palaeocurrents.

AESTHETIC CHARACTERISTICS:

Extensive views of the Aire Valley towards Baildon Moor.

ACCESS AND SAFETY:

Access to the site is via Carr Lane. There is parking in nearby residential roads. The lower quarry is visible from the road and footpaths run below the face. The area beneath the lower quarry is grassed and level, giving good sight of the rock faces, especially when the trees are not in leaf. In places the site is somewhat overgrown with trees, bushes and vegetation and will require 'gardening' at some future date. The talus slopes beneath the quarry faces are loose and should not be climbed.

The upper quarry is accessed from steps on Carr Lane and the face can be seen from below. A wooden fence and warning notices have been erected below the main face of the upper quarry, which is subject to rock falls.