



## **Derby Delph Quarry, Booth Wood Reservoir**

STATUS: Local Geological Site

OTHER DESIGNATIONS:

COUNTY: West Yorkshire

DISTRICT: Calderdale

OS GRID REF SE 017 162

OS 1:50,000 Landranger 110 Sheffield and Huddersfield

OS 1:25,000 Explorer OL 21 South Pennines

BGS 1:50,000 Sheet 77 Huddersfield (Solid and Drift)

FIRST DESIGNATED by West Yorkshire RIGS Group in 1996

MOST RECENT SURVEY West Yorkshire Geology Trust October 2007

DESIGNATION SHEET UPDATED August 2009

### **SITE DESCRIPTION:**

An extensive exposure of Upper Carboniferous Lower Kinderscout Grit is revealed in a 300m long vertical quarry face. The face shows massive cross-bedding, which indicate the size of the deltaic rivers in which the Upper Carboniferous sandstones were deposited.

### **HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

There are masons' marks on the faces and a large tunnel which may have been excavated to extract the best sandstone, etc. The Huddersfield and Halifax memoir (details below) 1930 p182 comments on the value of the Kinderscout Grit for constructional use. It was used for reservoir embankments, where large blocks of stone were required and was worked by the Corporation Waterworks Departments when needed.

More recently, the site was used as a batching plant for making concrete for the M62, so most of it is floored with concrete.

### **EDUCATIONAL VALUE:**

The geological value is high, as the rocks and structures are clearly visible. This makes it suitable for primary level upwards. The site contains a wide range of sedimentary structures with two quarry faces at right angles to each other. It is an ideal site for sketching and measuring dip of beds and cross bedding.

### **AESTHETIC CHARACTERISTICS:**

The quarry has a moorland setting, with steep drops to Booth Wood Reservoir on the south side.

### **ACCESS AND SAFETY:**

Access is through a gate off the A672 which at the moment is kept locked. There is a large concreted area in front of the quarry that would provide plenty of parking. Hard hats should be worn if the quarry face is approached, although the face seems to be stable at present. The slope to Booth Wood Reservoir would need to be fenced off, if the site was made more accessible to the public. It would be possible for it to be made wheelchair accessible. For some years the quarry had peregrine falcons nesting each summer and the quarry was opened to the general public, supervised by the RSPB. Twite

nest close to the quarry. The needs of these breeding birds must remain paramount. At present, the quarry face is used for climbing.