



Great Bride Stones, Todmorden

STATUS: Local Geological Site

OTHER DESIGNATIONS:

COUNTY: West Yorkshire

DISTRICT: Calderdale

OS GRID REF. SD 932 268

OS 1:50,000 Landranger 103 Blackburn and Burnley

OS 1:25,000 Explorer OL 21 South Pennines

BGS 1:50,000 Sheet 76 Rochdale

FIRST DESIGNATED by West Yorkshire RIGS Group in 1996

MOST RECENT SURVEY West Yorkshire Geology Trust in February 2010

DESIGNATION SHEET UPDATED March 2011

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Lower Kinderscout Grit outcrops as a 5m high rock face or edge. The gritstone has been weathered and eroded, probably by wind, into unusual shaped blocks including a 4m high pedestal rock. Many sedimentary structures can be observed along the edge including cross bedding, joint patterns, honeycomb weathering and graded bedding. The site demonstrates the coarse nature of Kinderscout Grit which forms the distinct moorland landscape of Upper Calderdale.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS:

There are many folk stories associated with the stones.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE:

The site is suitable for primary stages upwards, with many geological structures to observe and sketch. It is a suitable site for studying physical weathering of sandstone and sediments can be collected here. The geomorphology of the Upper Calder Valley can be observed from this site, including the over-deepened Cliviger Gorge. Other nearby rock exposures can be included in a walk across Bride Stones Moor.

AESTHETIC CHARACTERISTICS:

Great Bride Stones forms part of a large moorland area with panoramic views of the south Pennines. The surrounding moors provide habitats for many bird and plant species.

ACCESS AND SAFETY:

Access is by public footpath with a large car park next to the public house (SD 928 273) or from a footpath from Eastwood Road at SD 937 268. Do not attempt to climb the rock faces.