

## Lepton Great Wood



STATUS: Local Geological Site  
OTHER DESIGNATIONS: Kirklees SSI  
COUNTY: West Yorkshire  
DISTRICT: Kirklees  
OS GRID REFERENCE SE 195 141  
OS 1:50,000 Landranger 110 Sheffield and Huddersfield  
OS 1:25,000 Explorer 288 Bradford and Huddersfield  
BGS 1:50,000 Sheet 86 Glossop  
FIRST DESIGNATED by West Yorkshire Geology Trust in 2012  
DATE OF MOST RECENT SURVEY West Yorkshire Geology Trust in June 2012  
DESIGNATION SHEET UPDATED October 2012

### SITE DESCRIPTION:

The rocks found here are sandstones, siltstones and mudstones of Langsettian (Westphalian A), Upper Carboniferous age. The Thick Stone is the main sandstone and forms a south-facing 5m high rock face approximately 20m long, next to Beldon Brook. Sandstone beds, undercut by the stream in places, are found 200m downstream in the stream bed. 10m downstream of these sandstones is a river bank exposure of mudstones which have been acutely folded. The rocks have a general dip 5° to the north. The sandstones are very fine-grained, pale grey to yellow colour in 0.5m beds, interbedded with similar siltstone beds. There are very fine laminations within both the sandstones and siltstones. The mudstones which lie below the sandstones are dark grey and laminated. Both sandstones and siltstones have small scale ripple bedding. The mudstones seen upstream in the river bank have been steeply folded asymmetrically, possibly because of a fault which is shown on the 1999 BGS field slip.

### HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS:

About 200m further downstream there is a mine drainage outflow with orange acid mine water. A mine shaft, which is part of the old Victoria Colliery in Lepton Great Wood, can be found by walking up hill to the north, through spoil tips and an old footpath, bounded by banks. The shaft is brick-lined.

### EDUCATIONAL VALUE:

This site is not suitable for school parties as there is limited access to the stream banks and there are some steep slopes next to the stream in places.

### AESTHETIC CHARACTERISTICS:

#### ACCESS:

Lepton Great Wood lies south of Lepton off Rowley Lane. It can be reached by footpaths from Moor Lane, Highburton and from Rowley Lane, Lepton, via the footpath near Birch Avenue. From Rowley Lane, follow the main footpath through the woods for about 600m, then take the footpath to the right, 100m after a small stream. Follow the path downhill to Beldon Brook. The cliff faces are stable, but access to each face is very steep.