

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU  
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

**POWYS**

**TRECOED/CASTLE CRAB**

**Date of Notification:** 1994

**National Grid Reference:** SO052552

**O.S. Maps:** 1: 50, 000 Sheet number: 147  
1: 25, 000 Sheet number: SO 05/15

**Site Area:** 0.78 ha

**Description:**

This site comprises a section of wooded stream valley situated beside a minor road between Trecoed and Castle Crab Farms, near Builth Wells. It contains exposures of rocks containing fossils of the Silurian period and is a key site for geological study and research.

Here the local base of the Wenlock, the so-called *Acidaspis* Limestone, which is rich in odontopleurid trilobites and of *C. murchisoni* biozone age, lies unconformably on the upper Llandovery Trecoed Beds. The section is continued in the stream, in the bed of which are exposed the *riccartonensis* and *rigidus* zones strata. Between the farm and the stream lies the site of Castle Crab Quarry, mentioned regularly and prominently in the classic graptolite zonation work of Elles, and which formerly exposed both the *riccartonensis* and *rigidus* biozones. An historically important section showing fossiliferous strata of the lowest three Wenlock graptolite biozones in the Builth area.

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