

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

STANNER ROCKS

Date of Notification: 1954, 1983

National Grid Reference: SO 264585, SO 265588, SO 266590, SO 266591

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 148
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 25

Site Area: 15.2 ha

Description:

This site consists of relict broadleaved woodland, planted broadleaved and coniferous woodland and grassland situated on doleritic cliffs. It is of exceptional botanical interest, containing several species which are exceedingly rare in Britain and which are of a continental European or Mediterranean distribution.

The cliff grassland is subject to summer drought and maintains open plant communities. The base-rich igneous outcrops support such plants as common rock-rose *Helianthemum chamaecistus* and rock stonecrop *Sedum forsteranum*, as well as national rarities such as perennial knawel *Scleranthus perennis* and sticky catchfly *Lychnis viscaria*. Leached areas support calcifuges such as sheep's-bit *Jasione montana*.

The woodland and cliffs also support an interesting bryophyte and lichen flora.

Remarks:

5.3 hectares of the site form the Stanner Rocks National Nature Reserve, which was declared in February 1981.

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