

## DORSET LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES SURVEY

Site number G SY68/13

Site name Bincombe Hill quarry

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### Summary description

#### **Cretaceous, Upper Greensand and Lower Chalk.**

A former SSSI (denotified 1987). A grey marl overlies the basement bed of the Chalk – the Chloritic Marl – a fossiliferous glauconitic rock with phosphatic nodules. The top of the Upper Greensand is marked by a distinctive coarse quartz grit. Fossil bivalves, echinoids, brachiopods and ammonites occur.

### Site description

#### **Cretaceous, Upper Greensand and Lower Chalk.**

A disused quarry showing the Lower Chalk/Upper Greensand boundary, which was notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest until 1987. The Lower Chalk (about 7m thick) is highly jointed and fractured, probably due to weathering. The Chalk marl below the Chalk is about 2m thick. Both of these are glauconitic.

The top of the Upper Greensand is marked by a distinctive coarse quartz grit, 6m thick altogether, with individual beds about 35 cm thick (the Eggardon Grit) with grains up to 4 mm in diameter. The bedding is massive and tabular with some jointing. This grit forms a noticeable ledge around the hillside.

Fossil bivalves, echinoids, brachiopods and ammonites occur in both the Chalk and the Upper Greensand