

DORSET LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES SURVEY

Site number G SY58/13

Site name Limekiln Crag, nr Portesham Withy Bed

Summary description

Cretaceous, Upper Greensand, Eggardon Grits.

A prominent ridge in the hillside, created by landslipping, which has an exposure of the Eggardon Grits sandstone, cherts and sandy limestones of the Upper Greensand in the toe of the slip.

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The hillside to the north of Abbotsbury village has many landslips in which the Upper Greensand slips over the Kimmeridge Clay, or in the west over the Forest Marble. The Abbotsbury Fault cuts diagonally across the hillside from west of Abbotsbury gardens towards Portesham.

In the field below the Bishop's Limekiln a prominent ridge has been created by landslipping, with the Upper Greensand being tilted backwards (north) in the toe of the slip. This has therefore exposed 3.5m of Eggardon Grits, 1.5m Chert beds and less than 1m of a nodular fine whitish sandstone.