

# Stairway to Heaven

| LOCATION INFORMATION          |         |                       |                              |                      |                |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Parish</b>                 | Martley | <b>Grid Reference</b> | SO 75329 61768               | <b>Locality Type</b> | Disused quarry |
| <b>BGS 1:50 000 Sheet No.</b> |         | <b>182</b>            | <b>OS 1:25 000 Sheet No.</b> |                      | Explorer 204   |

| KEY SITE FEATURES     |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Stratigraphy</b>   | SILURIAN (Wenlock) / Much Wenlock Limestone.                  |
| <b>Lithology</b>      | Interbedded nodular silty limestone and calcareous siltstone. |
| <b>Fossils</b>        | Crinoids, brachiopods ( <i>Atrypa reticularis</i> ).          |
| <b>Mineralisation</b> | Calcite veins.  |
| <b>Structure</b>      | Dipping eastwards – 171/36E. Some minor localised faults.     |

| SITE DETAILS   |
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| <p>The site is in the woods on the north-east side of Penny Hill. Follow the public footpath around the east side of the hill from either Penny Hill Lane or Callow Farm track, until you reach a long, steep set of steps. This is the 'Stairway to Heaven'. The steps climb up through an impressive quarry face showing local structure within the Much Wenlock Limestone.</p> <p>The visible rock faces today are the remains of a much larger excavation, which is now largely obscured by scree and vegetation. The rock that is visible shows a fairly steeply dipping succession of Much Wenlock Limestone Formation consisting of nodular limestones, silty limestones and calcareous siltstones. The succession here is fairly fossiliferous with plentiful specimens of crinoids and brachiopods (particularly <i>Atrypa reticularis</i>) to be found. Beds typically do not exceed 75mm in thickness. Some minor localised faults occur in the exposure.</p> |



The main exposure area to the right of the steps.



The Stairway to Heaven - exposures are either side of these steps.



Small localised fault.



Interbedded silty limestones and calcareous siltstones.