

Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group

Warwickshire Local Geological Site	
Site No: 98	The Dumble Tufa Springs
Geological Formations	Deposition of calcium carbonate forming tufa
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Local Geological Sites (LGS), designated by locally developed criteria, are currently the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The designation of a LGS is one way of recognising and protecting important Earth science and landscape features for future generations to enjoy.

WGCG is responsible for the identification of LGSs in Warwickshire and the West Midlands.

Please note that designation of a site as a LGS does not confer a legal right of access. Unless the site is on a designated public right-of-way, the landowner's permission is required before visiting.

Warwickshire Local Geological Site Criteria Form

Site Name: The Dumble Tufa Springs	Also known as:
Location: Kingsbury Wood, Kingsbury	LGS No: 98
District: North Warwickshire	Grid Reference: SP 23759743
ESCC Class: IA	

Brief Description:

The site is a "finger" of woodland occupying a narrow gulley cut by a stream on the east side of Kingsbury Wood and known locally as The Dumble. It contains well developed tufa features in several locations, including four springs and tufa covered rocks at the confluence of a tufa spring tributary with the main Dumble Brook.

This site qualifies as a Local Geological Site for the following criteria:

Education – the value of the site for educational purposes in life-long learning

Valuable for fieldwork	✓	Easily and safely accessible	
Access permitted	✓	Capable of maintenance	

Scientific - the value of the site for study by both professional and amateur Earth Scientists

Diversity		Rare or exceptional feature	✓
Size or extent	✓	Typicalness	✓
Fragility		Naturalness	✓

Historic - the value of the site in terms of Earth Science knowledge, events or human exploitation

Linked with a prominent geologist		Associated with an important scientific concept	
Linked with an historic building or monument		Associated with an important industrial process	

Aesthetic - the value of the site in the landscape

Has features that form a prominent part of the landscape and are locally well known	
Has features that contribute to understanding landscape-scale geological or geomorphological processes	
Easily and safely accessible by the public	

This site has been selected by the LGS Selection Panel on:	14th December 2010
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Signed: Ian Fenwick, Chairman, Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group

Endorsed by:

Signed: Jon Radley, Keeper of Geology, Warwickshire Museum

Signed: Anton Irving, Area Conservation Adviser, Natural England

In the event of any development or planning consultation relating to this site or its surrounds, please inform the LGS Officer on-line at www.wgcg.co.uk or by post to The LGS Officer, WGCG, c/o Warwickshire Museum, Market Place, Warwick CV34 4SA

WARWICKSHIRE GEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION GROUP

LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITE (LGS)

Site No:	98	Site Name:	The Dumble Tufa Springs
Parish	Kingsbury		
District	North Warwickshire		
National Grid Reference	SP 23759743		
Ordnance Survey Sheets 1:50000 1:25000	Landranger 139 Explorer 232		

Location

The site is within Kingsbury Wood which is located south west of Wood End, about 2km east of Kingsbury village, in North Warwickshire. Kingsbury Wood is an SSSI for its biodiversity. All of Kingsbury Wood is located within a MOD firing range. It is necessary to check in advance whether they will be firing before visiting – telephone 01785 760643 Ext 8434 or 01785 763159.

Permission to visit the site must be obtained in advance from Mr. Prosser (preferably by e-mail to ann@hipsley.co.uk) who prefers visitors to park at Waste Farm and walk to the site through his fields.

Summary of Interest

The site is a “finger” of woodland occupying a narrow gully cut by a stream on the east side of Kingsbury Wood and known locally as The Dumble. It contains well developed tufa features in several locations, including four springs and tufa covered rocks at the confluence of a tufa spring tributary with the main Dumble Brook.

The geology map of the area shows that the underlying rocks in the east and west edges of The Dumble are sandstones of the Whitacre Member of the Carboniferous Salop Formation with the middle section being mudstones, siltstones and sandstones of the Carboniferous Halesowen Formation. It is suggested that the source of calcium carbonate, forming the tufa found at the sites, is the Spirorbis limestone from either the Whitacre Member or the Halesowen Formation, although no exposures were located during a recent survey.

At SP 23806 97526 there is a calcareous water spring. The spring emerges about 4 metres below the field level and flows down the slope into the Dumble Brook. All of the debris in the path of the water, including hazel nut shells, twigs and pebbles, is coated with light grey tufa. Limited excavation at the point of emergence of the water revealed some reddish-buff sandstone.

At SP 23735 97365 a spring outlet pipe emerges to flow over some sandstone blocks which are coated in tufa. Another stream also joins it at this point from the north bringing water from another spring under the woodland. The debris in its path is also coated in tufa.

At SP 23572 97369 the stream from the above features flows down the edge of the wood and into the Dumble Brook. The water is so calcareous that tufa is still visible on the rocks just before the confluence about 160 metres from the springs.

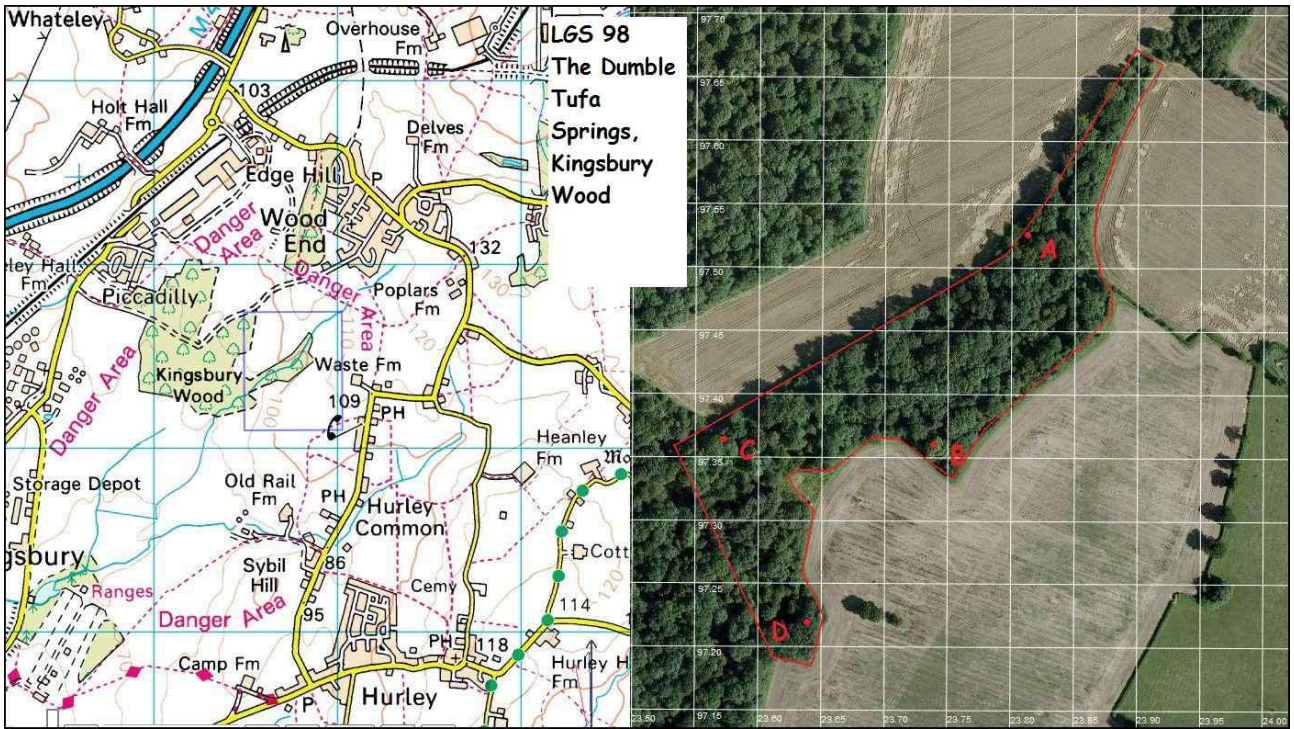
At SP 23635 97231 there is the site of an old concrete reservoir that was partly dug into a bank below the fields. Seepage springs in the bank below the field at the back of the reservoir discharge over the back wall forming encrustations of tufa which look almost like stalactites, but are in fact encrusted sedge leaves.



Tufa Spring at SP 23806 97526 (the stream emerges at the base of the spade).



Tufa from the above site.



The blue rectangle on the map defines the area depicted in the aerial photograph

The red outline on the aerial photograph defines the extent of the LGS