

© UKRIGS Education Project: Earth Science On-Site

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TEDBURY CAMP, SOMERSET: SITE LOCATION AND ACCESS

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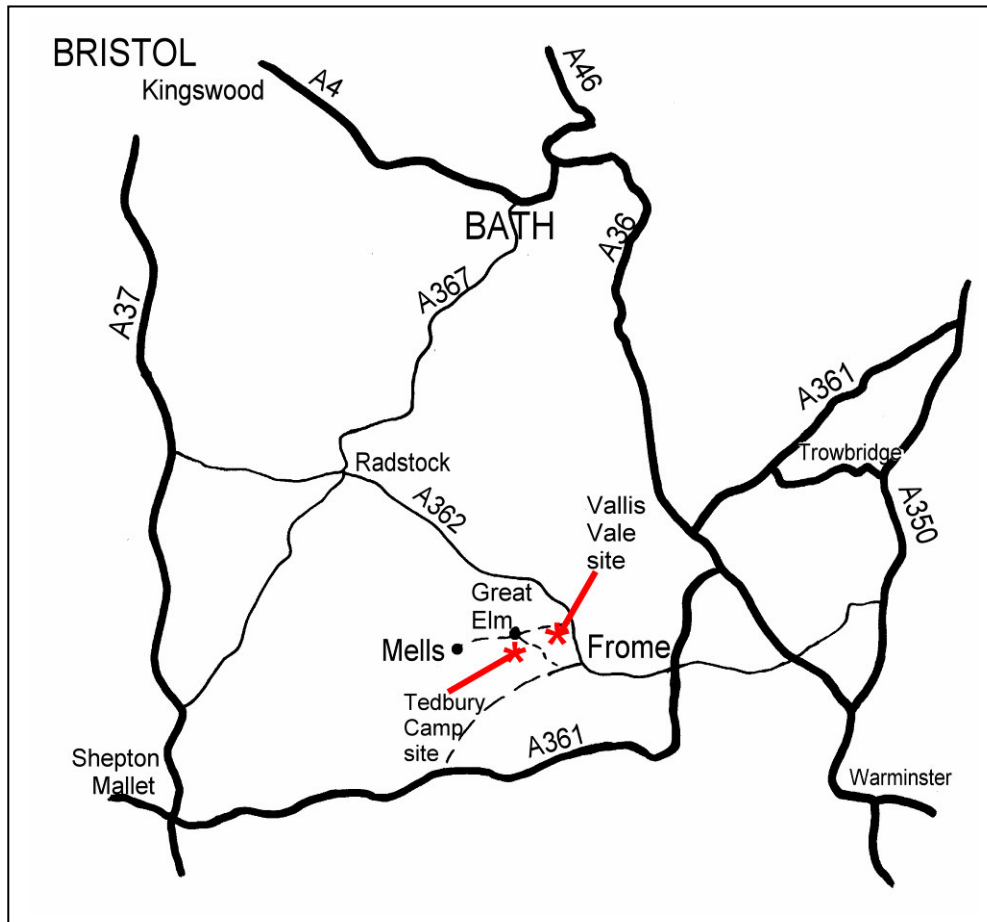


Figure 1. Location map for Vallis Vale and Tedbury Camp.

SITE NAME: Vallis Vale [De la Beche] and Tedbury Camp

STATUS: Vallis Vale [De la Beche]: is an SSSI. **Strictly no collecting.**

Tedbury Camp: Owned and maintained by Hanson. This is not a protected site.

GRID REFERENCE: Vallis Vale: ST 756492; Tedbury Camp ST746489

OS MAPS: 1:25,000 Explorer Series, No 142 Shepton Mallet & Mendip Hills East

BGS MAPS: 1:50,000 BGS Solid and Drift sheet 281 Frome

DIRECTIONS:

FROM THE NORTH: By minibus: Leave the M4 at junction 18 and take the A46 south to Bath. Continue south on the A36 (Warminster) road and take the A361 to Frome. From Frome take the A362 north-west for 2km, and turn left onto the minor road to Great Elm and Mells. Proceed to Great Elm and take the small downhill road to the left opposite the church. Cross the river and park in the rough lay-by at Fordbury Bottom. Take the footpath along the river to the east (downstream) to the first exposure, about 25 minutes' walk. At a wide gravel area, by the footbridges to Egford Brook, take the short narrow footpath to the north north east, to the exposure through the trees.

FROM THE WEST AND EAST: By minibus: Take the A361 to Frome, then take the A362 north west for 2km, and turn left onto the minor road to Great Elm and Mells. In Great Elm, take the small downhill road to the left opposite the church. Cross the river and park by the roadside at Fordbury Bottom. Take the footpath along the river to the east (downstream) to the first exposure, about 25 minutes' walk. At a wide gravel area, by the footbridges to Egford Brook take the short narrow footpath to the north north east, to the exposure through the trees.

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FROM THE NORTH: By coach: Leave the M4 at junction 18 and take the A46 south to Bath. Continue south on the A36 (Warminster) road and take the A361 to Frome. From Frome take the A362 northwest for 2km, and turn left onto the minor road to Great Elm and Mells. After 300 metres, just before Hapsford bridge, stop the coach in the layby on the right. Proceed on foot along the road to the left, through the lorry park (taking care of any moving traffic), and over the river bridge. Then take the path between two warehouses and the small path to left, alongside river, through the kissing gate and into Vallis Vale. At a wide gravel area, take the short narrow footpath to the north north east, to the exposure through the trees.

Arrange for the coach to pick the party up just west of the church in Great Elm at the end of the itinerary. Allow about 4 hours.

FROM THE WEST AND EAST: By coach: take the A361 to Frome, then take the A362 north west for 2km, and turn left onto the minor road to Great Elm and Mells. After 300 metres, just before Hapsford bridge, stop the coach in the layby on the right. Proceed on foot along the road to the left, through the lorry park (taking care of any moving traffic), and over the river bridge. Then take the path between two warehouses and the path to left, alongside river, through the kissing gate and into Vallis Vale. At a wide gravel area, take the short footpath to the north north east, to the exposure through the trees.

Arrange for the coach to pick the party up just west of the church in Great Elm at the end of the itinerary. Allow about 4 hours.

PLANNING THE VISIT: Both sites are open access and are accessible by footpaths. However, all parties will find it helpful to fill in the indemnity form (copy attached at the end of this document) and contact the **East Mendip Study Centre, Whatley Quarry, Whatley, Nr Frome, Somerset. BA11 3LF. Email: gill.odolphie@hanson.biz or telephone: 01373 475931** when planning your trip.

You will also find it useful to obtain the detailed site risk assessment and make any arrangements necessary for wheelchair access, or access to the toilet facilities close by the site. Visits to the still active Whatley Quarry may be arranged through the Field Centre.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS: Wheel chair access to Vallis Vale not possible. Wheelchair access to Tedbury Camp is not possible without prior arrangement with the Field Centre.

INITIAL RISK ASSESSMENT:

All group leaders should meet with their parties prior to the *On-Site* visit and impress upon participants the educational nature of the event, and the need for extra consideration for the safety of themselves and others.

Each group should have a member of staff proficient in First Aid, and carry a mobile telephone for emergencies.

There is no substitute for group leaders viewing the site before the field visit and making their own risk assessment, according to the requirements of their own Local Authority. The following assessment is only a guide.

RISK	ACTION
Rock faces over 3m in height	Wear hard hats. Do not climb the faces.
Narrow footpaths adjacent to streams.	Caution all party members, and insist on sensible behaviour.
The footpath is adjacent to an active railway line.	Insist on no trespassing across the clear fence line onto the track.
Quite steep access path to Tedbury Camp.	All party members should have suitable footwear and waterproof clothing. Extra care should be taken on the descent.
1.0m drop along the eastern edge of the Tedbury Camp site.	Caution all members of the party to take care, especially in the wet.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The exposure in Vallis Vale [De la Beche] section clearly shows the underlying, dipping Carboniferous limestones, overlain unconformably by the nearly horizontal yellow Jurassic Limestones (Inferior Oolite). The Tedbury Camp exposure shows the same relationships, except the surface of unconformity has been stripped by quarrying activities and a large area is exposed for inspection, revealing evidence of the multiple colonisation by marine organisms during Jurassic times, as well as the contact with the overlying Jurassic limestones.

NOTE: There are eighteen exposures in Vallis Vale proper, many now overgrown. The Vallis Vale exposure referred to here is known as "De la Beche", recognising an early geologist and his work on this very important site.



Site visit confirmation/indemnity form

In order to ensure you have unobstructed access to the required sites please complete and return this form to the **East Mendip Study Centre, Whatley Quarry, Frome, Somerset, BA11 3LF**. If you have any queries please contact the study centre on 01373 452515.

Site(s) to be visited

Date(s) of visit

School/Group Name

Contact Address

Contact telephone number

Group Leader

Total number in group

Age range of group

Time of arrival

Time of departure

On behalf of the school/group it is confirmed that, unless any damage, loss, claim, or injury is due to the negligence of Hanson or it's employees:

1 We accept full responsibility for any damage done to your property by any member of our party

2 We will indemnify Hanson against any claim by third parties (including members of our party) for injury, loss or damage caused during the visit by any member of our party

3 Hanson will not be liable for injury, loss or damage sustained by any member of our party

Signed by group leader

Dated
