

The type Ludlow Series: Carbon isotopes

Corfield *et al.* (1992) investigated carbon and oxygen isotope ratios ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$) in sections straddling the Wenlock-Ludlow boundary at various localities in England and Wales, including Pitch Coppice Quarry. They concluded that there was a steady decline in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ from positive to negative values across the boundary in all sections examined. At Pitch Coppice Quarry (and in the Malvern Hills), the boundary also appears to correlate approximately with a marked negative excursion in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (Corfield *et al.* 1992, fig. 2). A negative $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ excursion in the Much Wenlock Limestone Formation at Dudley, in the West Midlands, was correlated with a negative $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ excursion in the Builth Mudstones (*Gothograptus nassa* Graptolite Biozone) at Builth in central Wales. Although this excursion occurs in rocks of Wenlock age, it shows the potential for isotope stratigraphy as a correlative tool in the Silurian.

Corfield, R.M., Siveter, Derek J., Cartlidge, J.E. & McKerrow, W.S. 1992. Carbon isotope excursion near the Wenlock-Ludlow (Silurian) boundary in the Anglo-Welsh area. *Geology*, **20**, 371-374.

See: [Pitch Coppice Quarry](#).

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[Author: SGM]