

Chalk Group Lithostratigraphy: Marlborough Downs/Berkshire Downs/Chilterns - Chalk Marl

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This is mostly synonymous with the Chalk Marl of the Southern Region Chalk Group, except that a less complete succession is usually developed due to erosion at the base of the overlying Totternhoe Stone (Wood, 1996). Several distinctive horizons are recognisable, including silty chalks near the base, dominated by the bivalve *Aucellina* ('Aucellina Beds', c. +20 m thick in the Chilterns) (Wood, 1996). Higher in the succession is the Crippsi Limestone, dominated by the ammonite *Schloenbachia varians* and the inoceramid bivalve *Inoceramus crippsi*, overlain by the Dixoni Limestone (with common *Inoceramus virgatus*) (Wood, 1996).

Macrofossil Biozonation: *M. mantelli* Zone and *M. dixoni* Zone (pars), but where erosion is pronounced below the Totternhoe Stone, only *M. mantelli* Zone (pars).

Correlation: see Correlation with other parts of the UK

References

WOOD, C. J. 1996. Upper Cretaceous: the Chalk Group. In **SUMBLER, M. G.**, *British Regional Geology: London and the Thames Valley*. Fourth Edition. (London: HMSO for the British Geological Survey).

See: Totternhoe Stone

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