

Excursion to Penshurst and the Medway Valley. Saturday, May 30th, 1908 - Geologists' Association excursion

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Geologists' Association Circular No. 94. Session 1907-1908.

Excursion to Penshurst and the Medway Valley. Saturday, May 30th, 1908



Excursion to Penshurst and the Medway Valley. Saturday, May 30th, 1908. (Transcription of GA Circular No. 94. Session 1907-1908.)

DIRECTOR : E. W. HANDCOCK, B.Sc., F.G.S.

EXCURSION SECRETARY : A. C. YOUNG, 17, Vicar's Hill, Lewisham, S.W.

Train, London Bridge, S.E. and C.R. (low-level station) at 1.23 p.m. ; due at Penshurst 2.26.

To obtain special return tickets (3s. 2d.) meet Excursion Secretary in Booking Office not later than 1.5.

Object : To study exposures of Tunbridge Wells Sand and Medway Gravels. Visit section of Tunbridge Wells Sand at Moorden Farm, quarter mile from Penshurst Station.

Walk through private grounds of Redleaf (by kind permission of Mrs. F. E. Hills) to inspect exposures of Upper Tunbridge Wells Sand Rocks, corresponding in horizon to the exposures on Tunbridge Wells Common.

Excellent examples of "Honey-comb" structure are to be seen, and are well worth the attention of photographers. Proceed through Redleaf Gardens—fine view of Lower Greensand Escarpment to the north—to another section of Tunbridge Wells Sand in Penshurst Park. Here another exquisite panorama presents itself : the village of Penshurst, with its church and castle (the home of Philip Sidney) in the foreground, and the Central Wealden Ridge at Crowborough and Ashdown Forest in the distance.

Proceed through Penshurst Park, following the outcrop of Grinstead Clay to Paul's Hill, overlooking the village of Leigh (the home of the late Samuel Morley), to visit a third exposure of Tunbridge Wells Sand. At this point an extensive view of the Medway Valley and the wide expanse of Weald Clay, flanked on the north by the Lower Greensand Ridge, may be obtained. On a clear day the view extends to Sutton Valence Church (twenty miles off) on the crest of the Lower Greensand between Maidstone and Ashford.

Descend to the Medway Valley at Ensfield Bridge, the site of an abortive coal-boring. Visit Medway Gravel 150 yards from bridge—an extensive spread—and another gravel section at Messrs. Powell's brick-yard. Good examples of river erosion may be seen on route.

Walk to Sir Andrew Judd's Commercial School for tea (1s. 3d. each).

Return from Tonbridge at 7.25 ; due London Bridge 8.39 ; or 9.33, due London Bridge 10.31.

Members who can stay till the later return train may visit Tonbridge Museum and Tonbridge School Museum and Laboratories, by invitation of C. Lowry, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Tonbridge School.

Walking distance between five and six miles, principally through parks and field paths.

REFERENCES.

Geological Survey Map, Sheet 6 ; New Ordnance Survey, Sheet 287.

1842: MURCHISON.—"Hever Lodge Gravels." Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., vol. vii.

1861. DREW.—"Boundary between Tunbridge Wells Sand and Weald Clay." Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., vol. xvii.

1865. LE NECE FOSTER and TOPLEY.—"Superficial Deposits of Medway Valley," Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., vol. xxi.

1875. TOPLEY.—" Geology of Weald." Mem. Geol. Survey, Gravels, pp. 96 *et seqq.*

1887. WOODWARD, H. B.—" Geology of England and Wales," Tunbridge Wells Sand, pp. 361-3.

References

Handcock, E.W. Excursion to Penhurst and the Medway Valley, May 30th, 1908. Proceedings of the Geologists' Association 20(7) 1908 p.512-513. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-7878\(08\)80273-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-7878(08)80273-8)

Images



Upper
Tunbridge Wells
Sands in the
private grounds
of Redleaf.



Upper
Tunbridge Wells
Sands in the
private grounds
of Redleaf.



Site of the
Penshurst coal
boring at
Ensfield Bridge.



Medway Gravel
resting on
Wadhurst Clay.
Ensfield Bridge,
nr. Penshurst.

List of photographs

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[Page 49 P805302](#) Upper Tunbridge Wells Sands in the private grounds of Redleaf. Honeycomb weathering and peculiarly well developed jointing in the hard rocky upper beds.
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[Page 49 P805303](#) Upper Tunbridge Wells Sands in the private grounds of Redleaf. Honeycomb weathering and peculiarly well developed jointing in the hard rocky upper beds. Excursion to Penshurst and the Medway Valley, May 30th 1908.

[Page 49 P805304](#) Site of the Penshurst coal boring at Ensfield Bridge. Kim[m]eridge Clay reached at 1500 ft and abandoned after passing through 350 ft of that formation. Excursion to Penshurst and the Medway Valley, May 30th 1908.

[Page 49 P805305](#) Medway Gravel resting on Wadhurst Clay. Ensfield Bridge, nr. Penshurst. Excursion to Penshurst and the Medway Valley, May 30th 1908.

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