

Geology of the Andover area: Introduction

From Earthwise

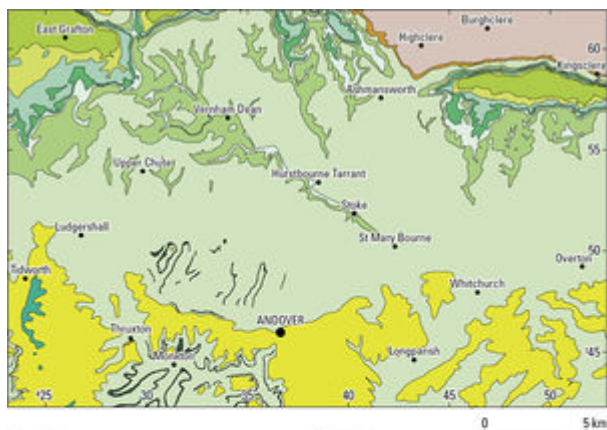
[Jump to navigation](#) [Jump to search](#)

This page is part of a category of pages providing a summary of the geology of the Andover district (British Geological Survey Sheet 283), which extends over approximately 600 km² of north-west Hampshire and a small part of eastern Wiltshire.

Links to other pages in this category can be found at the foot of the page.

Authors: J Thompson, K A Lee, P M Hopson, A R Farrant, A J Newell, R J Marks, L B Bateson, M A Woods, I P Wilkinson and N J Smith.

Loading map...



Andover district and bedrock geology.
P807819.

Introduction

Period	Epoch	Lithostratigraphic units		Thickness (m)	Age* (Ma)	Major events
QUATERNARY	PLEISTOCENE TO HOLOCENE			1-10	2.6	Alterations of interglacial and glacial events. Wide fluctuations of relative sea level
						Major unconformity time gap of about 40 Ma after the main Alpine Orogeny about 20-25 Ma. Major inversion of structures
PALAE-OGENE	PALEOCENE TO EOCENE	THAMES GROUP	LONDON CLAY FORMATION	up to 100	65.5	Marine transgression
		LAMBETH GROUP	READING FORMATION	25-30		Major unconformity time gap about 15 Ma
CRETACEOUS	LATE	WHITE CHALK SUBGROUP	CULVER CHALK FM	up to 15	99.6	Uplift and minor inversion of structures
			NEWHAVEN CK FM	up to 70		
			SEAFORD CHALK FM	60-70		
			LEWES NODULAR CHALK FM	45-75		
			NEW PIT CHALK FM	20-30		
	GREY CHALK SUBGROUP	ZIG ZAG CHALK FM	30-50	North Atlantic continues to open		
		WEST MELBURY MARLY CHALK FORMATION	15-20			
	EARLY	UPPER GREENSAND FM		40-70	99.6	North Sea and Wessex basins joined
		GAULT FORMATION		40-85		
		LOWER GREENSAND GROUP	UNDIVIDED	up to 12		
JURASSIC	LATE	WEALDEN GROUP		up to 350	c.143	Short-lived but widespread unconformity
		PURBECK GROUP	DURLSTON FM	35-60		Active block faulting
		PORTLAND GROUP	LULWORTH FM	45-60		London Platform uplifted
	MIDDLE	KIMMERIDGE CLAY FM		183-273	c.161	Regression
		CORALLIAN GROUP		42-51		Maximum Jurassic marine transgression
		OXFORD CLAY FM		100-300		Downwarping
		KELLAWAYS FM		up to 200		Uplift shallow-water carbonates
EARLY	GREAT OOLITE GROUP		up to 200	176.0	Renewed extension	
	INFERIOR OOLITE GROUP		60-650			
PERMIAN? TO TRIASSIC	LIAS GROUP		60-650	c.245	Marine transgression	
	PENARTH GROUP		up to 20			
	MERCIA MDST GP		up to 270			
	SHERWOOD SST GROUP		up to 230			
ORDOVICIAN TO CARBONIFEROUS	PERMIAN STRATA * ? AYLESBEARE MUDSTONE GROUP		unknown	c.245	Major Variscan folding	
	CARBONIFEROUS, DEVONIAN, SILURIAN, ORDOVICIAN,		unknown			Variscan Orogeny

* Timescale from Gradstein et al., 2004. Modified by Walker et al., 2009

P807823

This Sheet Explanation provides a summary of the geology of the Andover district (Sheet 283), which extends over approximately 600 km² of north-west Hampshire and a small part of eastern Wiltshire **Figure P807819**. The district covers an area from the A338, through Tidworth, in the west, to Overton and Kingsclere in the east. The district is traversed by major roads with the north-south A34 and the east-west A303 connecting the area to Newbury, Winchester, Basingstoke and Salisbury (see also **Jukes-Browne, 1908**)^[1].

The small market town of Andover, that developed significantly as an overspill for London in the 1950s, 60s, 70s and 80s, is the only urban area within the district and has a population of around 52 000. The town is the home of Defence Logistic Organisation and the Headquarters of Land Forces but also has a considerable light industry. Elsewhere the district is rural with arable farming and forestry being the principal industries.

The Andover district is founded for the greater part on Cretaceous strata; the area is characterised by broad gently dipping slopes and short, steep scarps which are cut by the valleys of the River Test and its tributaries.

Geological succession

Summary of the geological succession in the Andover area

References

1. [↑](#) Jukes-Browne, A J. 1908. The geology of the country around Andover. Memoir of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 283 (England and Wales).

Geology of the Andover area – contents

Introduction

[Geological setting](#)

[Geological description](#)

[Concealed strata](#)

[Ordovician to Devonian](#)

[Carboniferous](#)

[Permian](#)

[Triassic](#)

[Jurassic](#)

[Cretaceous](#)

[Exposed Strata](#)

[Upper Greensand Formation \(UGS\)](#)

[Chalk Group](#)

[Palaeogene](#)

[Quaternary](#)

[Artificial ground](#)

[Applied geology](#)

[Hydrogeology](#)

[Bulk minerals](#)

[Geotechnical considerations and hazards](#)

[Information resources](#)

[References](#)

Retrieved from

http://earthwise.bgs.ac.uk/index.php?title=Geology_of_the_Andover_area:_Introduction&oldid=29743

[Category:](#)

- [Andover - the geology of the area](#)

Navigation menu

Personal tools

- Not logged in
- [Talk](#)
- [Contributions](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Request account](#)

Namespaces

- [Page](#)
- [Discussion](#)

Variants

Views

- [Read](#)
- [View source](#)
- [View history](#)
- [PDF Export](#)

More

Search

Navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Help about MediaWiki](#)

Tools

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Page information](#)
- [Cite this page](#)
- [Browse properties](#)

- This page was last modified on 23 September 2016, at 13:58.

- [Privacy policy](#)
- [About Earthwise](#)
- [Disclaimers](#)

