

STUTTON SSSI

The low cliffs immediately west of Stutton Ness on the north shore of the Stour estuary are well known for exposures of silty sands and gravels representing an **interglacial** or temperate phase during the Pleistocene. Access to the shore is by the Stour and Orwell Walk footpath from Stutton village.



These deposits were formed in the lower valley of a proto- River Stour some 210 000 years ago. A rich mammalian fauna has been found, including lion, straight tusked elephant, horse, giant deer and bison. The cliffs also expose London Clay and Pleistocene gravels.

Excavating 210 000 year old fossil elephant bones at Maidenhall Ipswich. The picture also shows a drainpipe!



Suffolk is well known for its interglacial deposits with Hoxne (about 380 000 years old) and Bobbits Hole, Ipswich (about 125 000 years old) being the type sites of the Hoxnian and Ipswichian interglacials of the British Pleistocene sequence.