

Bramford – Coe's pit, Papermill Lane

Also known as 'Fisons' pit, 'A J Brush' pit and 'Hales' pit, this quarry is now a landfill site. It used to show Chalky Till on Sand and Gravel on Crag sand on Lower London Tertiaries (LLT) on Chalk (with *Belemnitella praecursor* Chalk on *Goniatites 'granulata'* Chalk). Good sections were still available in the 1970s and for earlier reference: see Percy Boswell's 1927 Ipswich memoir (Geological Survey), page 17. The LLT, here at the northern edge of the London Basin, were of particular interest. The rounded black flint pebbles of the sub-London Clay 'Suffolk Pebble Bed' (*in situ* in the near-adjointing Bramford Brickfield to the south) were here incorporated (by erosion) in the Crag basement bed. The Reading Sand contained clay pebbles, laminated beds (showing minor faults), and a perched water table with spring line. The clayey Reading Basement Bed contained shark teeth (crowns only) and shallow 'trace-fossil' burrows into the Thanet Beds. The Thanet Beds included fragmentary wood (in greenish sand) and light-coloured soft mudstones (c. 3 inches thick nodules about 2 feet above the base). My thanks to Mr Websdell of Brush's and Mr A Bell (Hales) for their many permissions to visit over the years.



As well as the photograph of Coe's pit above, there is another of the quarry in Boswell 1927, plate 1 and British regional Geology East Anglia, plate 3B.

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