

Clump). The BGS map shows a small patch of worked ground on the NE edge of this plateau. Sand was observed on the slope (<45m) up to Kings Clump, just west of the *Mound* at c. TQ 1945 7090 which is a little low for the mapped area of Black Park Gravel. The adjacent Wimbledon Common shows Bagshot Formation above the Claygate Beds and underlying the Black Park Gravel in the most southerly area (although this is not proven). It is tempting to think this small exposure could be Bagshot Sand but more investigation would be required to prove it. The probability is that it is a sandy facies at the top of the Claygate Beds.

The Capital Ring runs through Richmond Park, around the high ground at Pembroke Lodge further north than the designated and crosses the fault at Pen Ponds. There is a potential for a Geotrail diversion through the designated area.

Assessment of Site Value

Geodiversity topic: lithostatigraphy, geomorphology.

Access and Safety

Aspect	Description
Road access and parking	Free parking in designated car parks around Richmond Park. The car park at Kingston Gate is recommended for the designated area.
Safety of access	Footpaths, some rough with slopes and wet/slippery areas on areas of best exposure
Safety of exposure	Evidence of slippage, vegetation mostly kept down by deer
Permission to visit	Open access during daylight hours
Current condition	Well maintained by the Royal Parks
Current conflicting activities	Deer erosion could be an asset
Restricting conditions	Lack of exposure; permission to dig may not be granted.
Nature of exposure	Patchy exposure on path and where slipped

Culture, Heritage & Economic

Aspect	Description	Rating
Historic, archaeological & literary associations	Richmond Park generally: possible barrows, handaxes found (Wymer Collection), historic view to St. Paul's	7
Aesthetic landscape	Welcome large area of open space in urban setting. Deer an additional attraction. Much used.	8
History of Earth Sciences	Needs researching, particularly borehole data and handaxes	
Economic geology	Probably localized digging of gravels and Claygate Beds	2

GeoScientific Merit

Geomorphology	Relationship of geology to topography; comparisons with neighbouring Wimbledon Common and Putney Heath. NB GLA 25 Putney Heath is at the north end of Wandsworth Common	4
Sedimentology	Encompasses a variety of gravel, sand, silt & clay	4
Palaeontology	Handaxes found in the Black Park Gravel are in the Wymer Collection Nos. 2011 & W242	2
Igneous/mineral/ Metamorphic Geology		
Structural Geology	Fault runs through centre controlling level of underlying Eocene deposits (north edge of designated area)	2
Lithostratigraphy	Three strata: London Clay and Claygate Member and overlying them, the much younger Black Park Gravel	4
Potential use	Possible research in respect of levels of different lithologies; potential for Geotrail (close to Capital Ring)	
Fragility	Temporary exposures can easily become overgrown	

Current Site Value

Community	Much used park crossed by the Capital Ring. Catering facilities at Pembroke Lodge (north end) and a small shop outside the Lodge selling books etc. but no potential for a geology display. NB There is a small display in the Visitor Centre on Putney Heath that shares the same geology (the two areas are divided by the Beverley Brook).	10
Education	Potential for geotrail, possibly in association with Capital Ring	6

Geodiversity value

Recommend LIGS on account of the three different lithologies and the potential for a Geotrail. Richmond Park is within the Royal Borough of Richmond on Thames whereas Putney Heath with similar lithology is in the Borough of Wandsworth.

4

GLA 70 Richmond Park

Photos Diana Clements 2014



View to exposures in rotational slip beneath Thatched House Lodge



Exposure probably Claygate Beds at top of rotational slip



Exposures up to track leading N from Thatched House Lodge



Surface gravel (mostly eroded) underlain by Claygate Beds