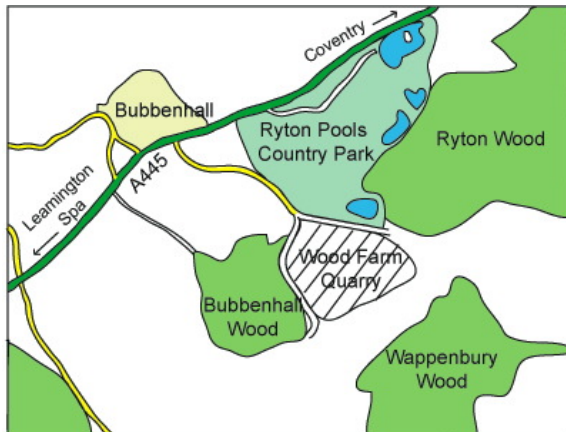


Wood Farm Quarry is located at the end of Pagets Lane which is a single track road off the Ryton Road (A445) on the outskirts of Bubbenhall. There is an exit from Ryton Pools Country Park, near Pagets Pool, that leads onto Pagets Lane. As the site is still a working quarry, it is not open for public access.



An interpretation board describing the landscape occupied by Warwickshire's earliest human inhabitants, on the banks of the River Bytham, is located overlooking Pagets Pool. Fossils and ancient human artefacts from the area are exhibited at Warwick Museum.

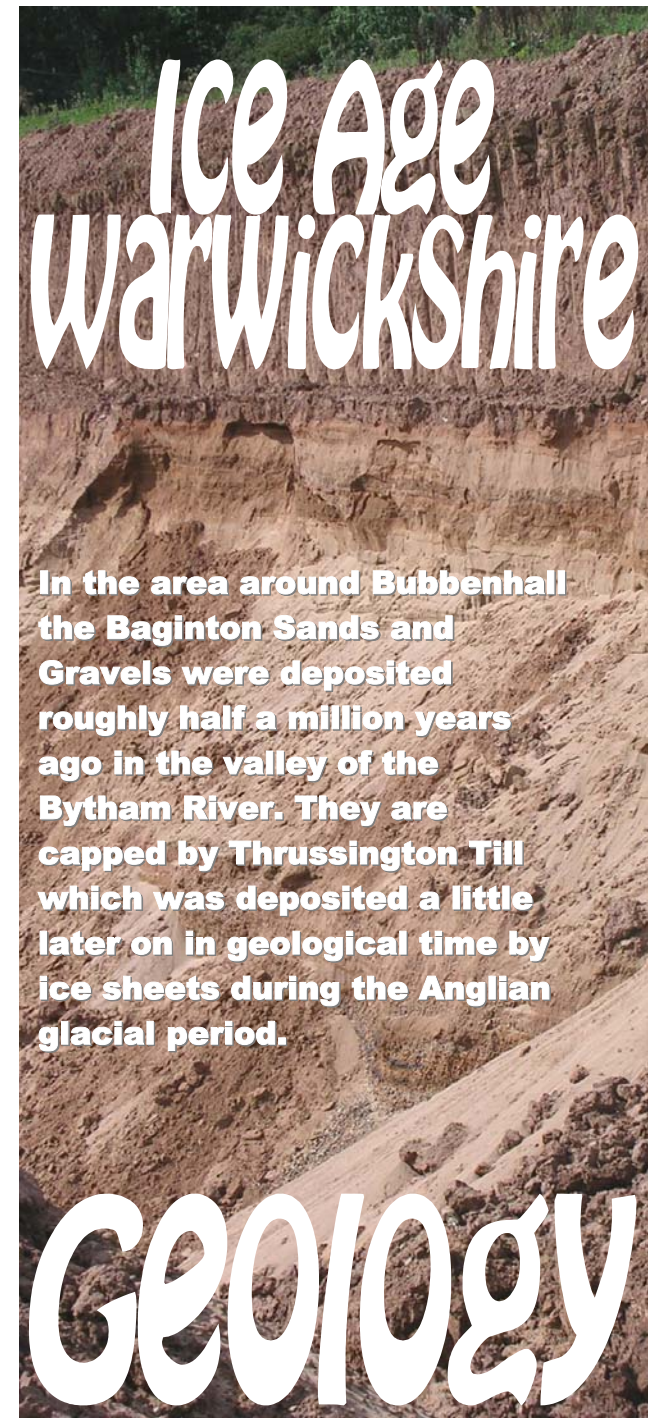
**For information on the Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group visit:
www.wgcg.co.uk**

The Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group (WGCG), supported by grants from English Nature, is working with Smiths Concrete to establish a record of the geological features in Wood Farm Quarry, which is adjacent to the Country Park. Together they have covered a section of the quarry face to reduce the rate of erosion.

A steel frame, ten metres long, has been securely pinned to the clay both at the top and the bottom. A PVC coated tarpaulin, which covers the five metre-wide section, is held in place on the steel framework by horizontal poles.



**For information on the Conservation Project visit:
www.WoodFarmProject.org.uk**

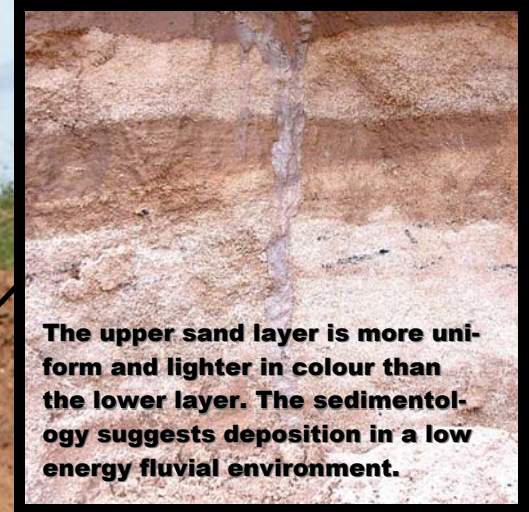


In the area around Bubbenhall the Baginton Sands and Gravels were deposited roughly half a million years ago in the valley of the Bytham River. They are capped by Thrussington Till which was deposited a little later on in geological time by ice sheets during the Anglian glacial period.

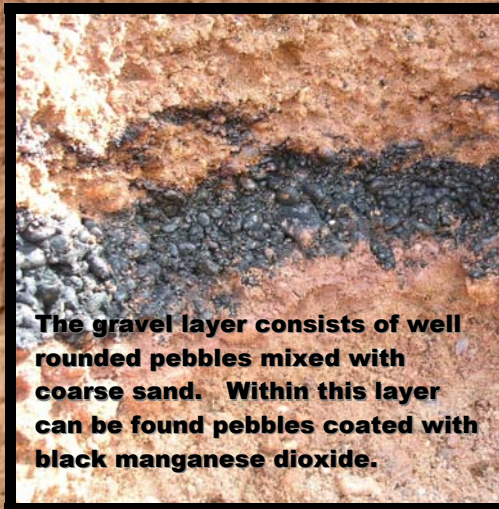
Wood Farm Quarry



Thrussington Till is a red or brown pebbly clay, two to three metres thick.



The upper sand layer is more uniform and lighter in colour than the lower layer. The sedimentology suggests deposition in a low energy fluvial environment.



The gravel layer consists of well rounded pebbles mixed with coarse sand. Within this layer can be found pebbles coated with black manganese dioxide.



The lower sand layer is yellow to orange in colour. Below it are deposits of clay and silt which contain fossils indicating a sub-arctic environment.



Above a surface of Triassic Mercia Mudstone in the quarry floor, the base of the Baginton Sand and Gravel has yielded bones, teeth (left) and tusks of extinct straight-tusked elephant. Locally beneath these deposits, older river channels cut into the Mercia Mudstone floor have yielded plant and animal remains that indicate a temperate climate, not unlike that of central England today. Very rarely, the base of the Baginton Sand and Gravel yields Palaeolithic handaxes (right), fashioned from andesitic volcanic rock, thought to have come from the Lake District. We suspect that these were the work of "Heidelberg Man" (*Homo heidelbergensis*); Warwickshire's first human inhabitants, roughly half a million years ago.

