

A Geological Timeline for Wing

Wing is sited on the top of a hill within the clay vale north of the Chilterns chalk escarpment. The slopes south of the A418 are underlain by Gault Clay whereas to the north the Jurassic beds below the Gault underlie the land.



However, the hill of Wing exists because of the protection provided by a cap of gravel (shown in pink on the map) from the big meltwater rivers that would have poured from the ice sheets in the Ice Age (Cromerian to Ipswichian) where they came across from Scandinavia, bringing all sorts of erratic (alien) materials such as flint from the chalk hills of the east.

Much of the rest of the area is covered by a Glacial Boulder Clay (muddy green colour on map), the material from under the following Anglian Ice Sheet (about $\frac{1}{2}$ million yrs old). This is mainly material churned from the underlying clayey rocks with lumps of the Jurassic rocks and also Cretaceous Greensand, Chalk and Flint as well as material from further afield.

The valley bottoms are covered in River Gravels mainly deposited at a time when meltwaters would have put much more material and force of water down the valleys than we see in the streams of today. In addition, 'Head' is mapped. This is material that has slipped down into the valley under the tundra conditions now seen in Siberia and Northern Canada where the subsoil remains frozen but the topsoil melts in the summer sun.

In parts of the slope to the northwest of the village the underlying solid Jurassic beds come to the surface but they are mainly obscured by all the effects of the Ices Age.